



Kharishma

Jenny L.R. Nay , Raven Haymond (Editor) , Emir Dizajn (Illustrations)

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Indistinct voices, strange visitations and unusual dreams have begun to plague Nineteen-year-old Khari days before her return from London to her Oregon home. As the occurrences have spawned haunting emotions she thought she had escaped, she realizes she can't ignore them any longer and begins to surrender to their pull. Feeling weary and a bit crazy, Khari struggles to cope with what is happening to her. She is forced to open up about herself, only to find out secrets were kept from her by those she trusts the most. She then begins a problematic journey toward self-discovery and uncovers more than she ever imagined possible. But, continuing toward understanding requires Khari to face a dangerous figure, risk of death and a fight for love. Kharishma explores the importance of family ties, both past and present, the consequences of love and hate, and the power of believing in ones self. It is a story of deception, humility, discovery and the strength of bonds to the seen and unseen. It is a story that will not be easily forgotten and will leave you wishing for more.

Kharishma Details

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Author : Jenny L.R. Nay , Raven Haymond (Editor) , Emir Dizajn (Illustrations)

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Download and Read Free Online Kharishma Jenny L.R. Nay , Raven Haymond (Editor) , Emir Dizajn (Illustrations)

From Reader Review Kharishma for online ebook

Heather says

I won this book as part of Goodreads Giveaways. On the surface, this appears to be a simple but lovely coming of age novel. However, one of the underlying themes that resonated with me was the interconnectedness of all things. I appreciate that the author was able to make something that most people find horrific (insects) into something beautiful. I enjoyed spending a few days in Kharishma's world.

Jessica says

I received the E-ARC version of this book in exchange for an honest review, so I'll do my best to give as much feedback as I can.

Kharishma is a novel about a girl named Kharishma (Khari for short), who has inherited the lost tribal lands and ruling title of her grandfather. When her grandfather was murdered by his competitors, due to their greediness and want of the land for themselves, he entrusted the identity and location of the land over to nature (insects, specifically) because he knew nature wasn't greedy like humans. Khari has the ability to sense the communications of insects, and she always has since she was a little girl. However (and this isn't revealed until later in the plot), she turns away from the urgings of the insects due to a humiliating occurrence as a young girl, which is why she's shaken to find herself listening to them while in London. (London is actually the opening settings of the novel. Khari is there for as a modeling assistant for shows and to escape from her hometown in Oregon for a year.)

The reemergence of her connection with insects, however, sends her back home to Oregon. When she's reunited with her mom, she finds out that their house has been burglarized a few weeks before. Her mom assures her that nothing was taken, but the idea of someone uninvited in their house clearly shakes Khari. Meanwhile, she is dreading/anticipating seeing Sam, the childhood friend and boy she's loved, since her sudden departure a year earlier (Note: I thought Sam was very swoon-worthy because of how he treated Khari. Obviously, he was physically attractive being a rancher and all, but he was sweet and genuinely wants to help Khari rediscover herself. This is seen later in the novel, though.). Although everything's not okay, things seem to be falling back into place. Khari's peace of mind is disrupted one night, though, when the burglar returns; this time, however, he attacks Khari and claims he wants her grandfather's journals.

Khari manages to escape and flee into the woods, but she's haunted by the attack. She returns, much to the relief of her mother, her uncle, and Sam, but learns of a deep betrayal: her mother has been hiding her true identity from her all along. Khari is shocked by the secrets revealed about her Native American past, and her mother shows her where her grandfather's journals are really hidden. During a "date" with Sam, however, the same man breaks back in and steals the newly-discovered journals, and when Khari is desperate to track him down, she and her mother get into a fight. Acting rashly, Khari leaves the house and goes to Sam's ranch, asking him to help her track the man down. They eventually find the man's house and decide to monitor him, but Khari slips away and when she returns to Sam's Jeep, is kidnapped.

When she awakes, the man takes her and tries to kill Sam in the room he was keeping them in. He takes her out to wilderness and holds her captive there, desperate for her to show him where the lands are. Sam survives, her uncle and mother find her in time, and the man is sadly killed by his own ignorance and avarice. At the end of the novel, Khari realizes where her people's lands are and invites them back to them, with her ruling as chief.

My actual rating: 3.5.

So, what did I like about this book? First, it was original. I've never read a book about Native American heritage, so I thought it was definitely a twist from other young-adult fiction. Second, Khari is communicated to by bugs...not other people or supernatural forces. I don't know; I guess the thought just intrigued me more than the "usual" would. Third, Sam. 'Nuff said.

What didn't I like? For one thing, I found myself confused throughout the novel. It may have been my own doing, but there were times I was just like, "Wait, what?" The second thing I didn't like was that I found it incredibly hard to get into the book. I really liked the concept and thought put into the plot, but it just didn't grab me like I was hoping it would.

With all of this said, I would recommend this book for people looking for something different. Or if someone is of Native American descent or looking into this type of subject matter. Lastly, I would like to congratulate the author on a job well done, and I wish you luck in your current and future endeavors. I would be happy to read any future novels in exchange for honest reviews.

Sarah LaGioia says

NOTE: I was given a pdf copy of this ebook courtesy of the author in exchange for an honest review.

I have mixed feelings about this book.

Plot-wise, I was excited to read this. I had attempted to win a copy of it from the Goodreads First Reads giveaway and marked it as To-Read even after having not been selected, which is how the author had found me. I have always been interested in cultural stories from around the world, and being Native American myself (albeit not of the same people as Khari and her family) I was quite interested in hearing this one. It is a supernatural story, not in the paranormal sense, but in the sense that nature is innately powerful, a living entity not to be trifled with and worthy of respect. I really enjoyed the idea of a paradise on Earth that mankind was blinding itself to.

As for the writing itself, I really appreciated certain aspects, but struggled with others. I really liked the way certain scenes/characters/plot points were handled at one time, but they were not handled that way (or any way) consistently. Right away, I felt that the author's description could get a little carried away; there is so much detail provided that I felt saturated by it, meaning that even when a particularly poignant line or metaphor would come up, it didn't really faze me. There is also a lot of primary characterization. I would have liked to get a feel for the characters, their personalities, and motivations on my own, without being told how someone is or why all the time.

Now, at the risk of anything spoilerish, Khari is entrenched in the world of London fashion at the start of the novel, so I made allowances for how overly descriptive the narration could get at times. But she isn't in that scene throughout the book, and goes through some distinct changes in lifestyle and goals as the story proceeds. If the description was meant to go along with her interests, I don't feel that the detail (or at least to what she attributed such detail) grew and changed with Khari.

The inconsistency bleeds into dialogue: some language in conversations sounds stilted whereas elsewhere it flows quite naturally. To me, it seemed as if the author was attempting to combine the flow of language from oral traditions and legends with that of modern speech, but the characters' speech patterns can change so

drastically between scenes that it feels off. Furthermore, a lot of characters simply say how they feel rather than allowing narration or body language to do that for them, so there would be instances where a character could seem to be a real person, only to feel flat the next time they show up.

There were small typos that were noticeable but not problematic (for the most part), e.g. a character will be called Leif in one line, and Lief the next; a character may say "mon cheri" and a paragraph later "my cheri." Words would be altogether omitted in some places, but context rendered the surrounding text understandable.

One thing that really aggravated me was that entire passages could be jumbled into such a confusion. It made the writing more difficult for me to enjoy but I tried not to let this affect the rating I gave the book overall. Having been given a pdf copy, I had this sent to my Kindle device for conversion so that it would be more portable and I could be reading it on the go. Sometimes the conversion process can lead to a strange line break here or there, and I assume it is not such a stretch for a sentence to become this garbled: "He didn't know, but customer that he lives in a did mention to another large glass home on the beachfront, almost directly behind the shop." (sic) If it is not just my copy, then that is obviously a problem with the text itself, but with the exclusion of this jumbling, errors really just seem to be typos or accidental omissions.

There were some events that confused me, others that were simply too convenient, but overall the story itself made sense and was new and interesting to me. The characters could feel either too young or too old for their respective ages at times, but while it bothered me, I could explain away why their behavior/reactions might change from one scene to another, so this may just be a personal preference issue. On that same note, because the story is told in the 3rd person but limited to Khari's perspective, I felt that with the level of description detailing appearances, emotions, thoughts, etc of Khari that the writing may have been more successful in 1st person. It's a story so personal to who Khari is that the distance imposed by 3rd person made me feel more removed from her character even when I'm being blatantly told that she feels betrayed, or sad, or afraid, etc.

Overall an interesting tale with an inspiring message, and I'm glad to have read it, but some of the decisions made it difficult for me to enjoy in its entirety.

Latisha Bramlett says

I received a free PDF copy of this book from Ms. Nay in exchange for my honest review.

I give this book 3 1/2 stars. The first part of this book was a little flowery for me. The writing was very detailed and technically good but it was lacking something for me. However, the story really picked up when Khira came back home. Once she arrived back in the states, I couldn't out the book down. I stayed up late finishing it. The book is about the power of love and family and how hate and greed can ruin everything.

Things are wrapped up for the most part. There are no major cliffhangers. It ends with hope. However, I do want to know what happens with Khira and her family. Are they able to bring everyone together? How does it work out?

Kayti Raet says

Reviewed for Readers' Favorite

The Plot

In Kharishma, a novel by Jenney L. R. Nay, based on various Native American lore, Kharishma, or titular heroine, has just returned home to America after staying in London to escape her past and perhaps change who she is only to discover she didn't quite like the person she was becoming.

After returning back to her hometown to help with her mother's catering business, their house get broken into and Kharishma soon learns a secret her family has kept from her her whole life.

She's part of a tribe scattered by the treachery and greed of one man and only she has the power to find their magically hidden home and bring her people together.

But the negative forces that drove her tribe apart are coming to make sure she never succeeds.

The Thinky Bits

Kharishma by Jenny L. R. Nay was a really quick read. By no means fast paced Nay has a way of crafting scenes in way that flowed into one another like water.

The cast of characters was small and while I did enjoy Kharishma's mother and uncle I never really felt connected to any of the characters beyond their initial descriptions and hobbies.

The romance between Kharishma and Sam, her long time friend, was sweet and I enjoyed how Nay slowly unfolded the mystery of Kharishma's powers and her past as well as the lore of her tribe.

A great coming of age story for anyone who likes a dash of magic in their novels of good good guys and black-hat bad ones.

Lucinda says

A compelling coming-of-age story of profundity, mesmeric romance and magic that is simply stunning!

4.5 STARS!

KHARISHMA is an exquisitely multi-layered novel of extraordinary depth and everlasting impacting resonance that is truly impressive. Jenny L R Nay has produced an accomplished debut of substance that is excellently written and full of delicious details (descriptively evocative). Sat in suspense throughout unable to put this book down, I was swept into a mystical world of remarkable wonders of what dreams are made from. The hauntingly mesmeric, surrealistic narrative really tugged at the heartstrings and left me feeling as though a great wave of sensations had washed over me. The delicate ambience and striking settings transported me to a place of enchanting mystery, complete with mystical creatures and otherworldly beings of fascinating conception.

At its core KHARISHMA is a tale of two star-crossed lovers whose irreversible bond entwines, forming an impenetrable mark between yourself and their personal journey. It is however also a Young Adult novel that explores the importance of family and relationships through humility, self-discovery and love versus hate. Written with sincerity and candid truth-drawing acuteness the author is able to really 'get under the skin' of

her readers, by impressing upon the importance and power of **believing in oneself**. This tale left a lasting impression - - It was a highly memorable, unforgettably poignant read of magical enchantment and literary greatness! I am SO impressed by such a markedly atypical edition to the genre and so would not hesitate in recommending to all my friends, seeking a sensational story of enlightenment and readability. 19 year old Kari is a character who has nestled herself in a corner of my heart...

*I would like to thank Jenny Nay for providing me with an *e-copy* of her striking story to read & provide an honest, non-biased review on.

Rachael says

I received a PDF copy of this book from the author in exchange for my honest review.

First off let me say how much I love the cover. It is what first attracted me to this book. After reading the story I do somewhat wish that it was bee's on the cover instead of butterfly's, but still the cover is gorgeous!

I did enjoy this book for the most part. Although, when I am reading a story about a young character (in this case nineteen) I can usually tell that the character is young straight away. There were times in the story (especially in the first half) where the characters, Sam and Khira, seemed older than they were. It might just be me thinking this but I felt as if the author didn't know how to correctly portray a teen character well enough. That being said, it was my only criticism on the story.

Altogether, I thought the story was beautifully written. The vivid details in the book made me feel as if I was in the story along with the characters. I loved how the author described the lost Native American tribe and how the main character came to terms with what and who she was. The ending was beautiful but it did leave me wanting more. Is there going to be a second one? I hope so!

Christina says

"The pain began as a small murmur, a tug really, that was now so great it filled every pore in her trembling body."

This book is written very beautifully and is full of thoughtful detail. Really, the detail was better than a lot of books I've been reading here lately. The author has natural talent for crafting a story and this is truly a gem of her work. I'm looking forward to future books written by her.

Catherine says

I was sent an eBook version in return for an honest review.

Kharishma by Jenny L.R. Nay is about Khari, a young girl of Native American origins. She works in London, in the fashion industry.. Finding strange new feelings, she begins finding various bees and the odd desire to return home to Oregon, something that she had been planning for some time now. Once she arrives there, she finds it uncomfortable to be around the people she had once known in her younger years. She has

also found new friends, the insects and find that the bees she had been finding in London had traveled there just to see her. Through the things happening in her every day life, the things told to her by the insects and her family, she finds that she is being drawn to find the land belonging to her tribe. That is, before someone else does and tries to take it as a selfish conquest.

The characters are completely enthralling and even the supporting characters have quirks or values that keep them interesting. Many of the people in the book feel very natural, which is unusual for me. The author has written these characters very well so that all of them have their own part to play. Each one of these characters is relateable in some aspect and I can consider the perspectives of each of these people, understanding their actions and their part to play in the story. The book is very special in that way, that I can even take on the perspective of the bad guy and find that I can understand his position. In the same light, I can understand Khari's choices and thoughts, finding myself equally inquisitive as she on her journey and curious to know more about her past, as well as the history of her people.

The plot is interesting too. It begins fairly simply, with a young girl moving away from London. We find that she is someone we can relate to, someone who forgets to put the bin out before the garbage man comes and someone who is not necessarily confident in her every day life. She's normal and not anything particularly special, but then she finds that she's being drawn to her homeland. There's an air of whimsy about the book. It's not necessarily all about the plot. A lot of the writing is about the scenarios and thoughts that we experience while reading. We're drawn into new situations with each new chapter where we explore all sorts of things that might be new to the reader. The plot itself is fairly set in reality, though with the help of a little bit of mysticism, it's sort of blessed with a bit of magic as well. A lot of people in real life have natural grace with animals, and that's sort of what Khari's relationship with the insects is like. It's almost as if it could be a factual story and the author does not over do the fantastical aspects.

Overall, I'm pretty pleased with this book. The characters all have very unique qualities and I can see why each has chosen their own path in the story, understanding their actions. The plot and settings all have some sort of interesting elements that keep me intrigued right through the book. It's a great story and is quite an inspiring tale of an ordinary girl who rises to recover her tribal land. It is well worth five stars.

Brandy says

I normally have a hard time keeping interest in a story with a young lead character. And I really can't stay interested in Native American history or lore. But this was decent! The pdf was gifted by the author, but I kind of want the paperback in hand! It was a little too easy to read though, but then again it is young adult. Wonderful job! A great change for this genre! I will be recommending it.

Ashley Reading Stewardess says

I was first drawn to Jenny L.R. Nay's debut book Kharishma after reading the following description on Goodreads:

"Indistinct voices, strange visitations and unusual dreams have begun to plague Nineteen-year-old Khari days before her return from London to her Oregon home. As the occurrences have spawned haunting emotions she thought she had escaped, she realizes she can't ignore them any longer and begins to surrender to their pull. Feeling weary and a bit crazy, Khari struggles to cope with what is happening to her. She is forced to open up about herself, only to find out secrets were kept from her by those she trusts the most. She

then begins a problematic journey toward self-discovery and uncovers more than she ever imagined possible. But, continuing toward understanding requires Khari to face a dangerous figure, risk of death and a fight for love. Kharishma explores the importance of family ties, both past and present, the consequences of love and hate, and the power of believing in ones self. It is a story of deception, humility, discovery and the strength of bonds to the seen and unseen. It is a story that will not be easily forgotten and will leave you wishing for more."

This description peaked my interest just enough to make it so that I added the book to my to-read list. I was later contacted by the author and offered a free PDF copy of her book in exchange for an honest review after she saw the book on my to-read shelf.

Kharishma did not disappoint as it presented a truly unique story as Khari learns of her family's past and the events of that past that have coalesced to make her the utterly unique and special individual that she is. Not wanting to give anything away, I will just say this was a highly engrossing read that kept my interest throughout and made me want to view the world in an entirely different way than how I, and I think most humans, do on a daily basis. This is a book that I would recommend to those who enjoy reading about other cultures and their customs.

I would like to thank Jenny L.R. Nay for allowing me the chance to read this book and I look forward to reading more from her as she has an unparalleled style of writing and insight into a different way of viewing the world, something which I'm sure her background in archeology greatly helped with.

Overall rating: 4.5 stars

Sharon says

E-book gifted by the author for review

Kharishma is a nineteen-year-old who is trying to find her place in the world, but she finds it difficult when she hears and sees things that she cannot understand. All her life she has been dealing with being different, creatures of the earth, love and understand her and try to guide her, but fear of what others will think of her she turns away from a part of herself that is more important than she could ever realise. Kharishma moved to London to expand her love of art, but her connection to the earth and its creatures reach out to her and starts to show signs that she cannot ignore any longer. On returning home she starts to find out many things about herself that have been kept from her by the people that she has trusted the most. After a break in at her home and threatened with death, she discovers the secret to why she has such an affinity with the earth. Can she overcome the fact that she has been lied to all her life and try to find the missing pieces to explain who she really is or will it all be too late?

This is a captivating story coming of age story, the author weaves a magical tale with such vivid descriptions that you become one with Kharishma. I had an instant connection with the main character because of her difficulties in understanding herself and where she fits into the grand scheme of things. It was great to read a story with such a strong lead character, who had to suffer through many hardships, never losing hope in herself or in what she had to do to find her true self.

A truly enjoyable experience, I look forward to reading more work from this author in the future.

Erin says

It is refreshing to see something different in young adult lit; something that isn't vampires, zombies, werewolves (not that I don't enjoy reading books with them in it!) that has a deeper meaning. Once I started reading this book, I knew something was up with the recurring bees, and it made me really excited for some reason. The characters have fantastic personalities, and you fall in love with (most of) them. This is definitely something I recommend, and have every intention of encouraging my students to give it a chance. Overall, for Ms. Nay's first book, great read, and a very lovely writing style!

Steph says

Strange and unusual dream, a lost native American tribe and a whole life that must be discovered and left in the hands of a girl makes this tale such an exciting read. This whole book follows Khari on a voyage of self discovery after having moved back home from a year working in Britain. Kharishma is totally different to my usual reads, but it has such a great root tale to tell, with a mix of danger and the right amount of romance, it was just a simply lovely book to read. Beautifully well written with such vivid detail into every aspect of the story gives any reader a sense of being completely involved throughout. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who loves coming of age books or is generally looking for something slightly different to read from similar books.

I would just like to thank Jenny for getting in contact with me to read her amazing first book and to congratulate her on such a beautiful tale that has become one of my favourite reads. I will most certainly be reading Kharishma again

Abi says

I received a copy of this for an honest review I gave this four stars because it was a splendid book to read. The beginning I felt lack something but it quickly picked up and turned into a wonderfully magical story! It was just written so beautifully I definitely recommend this book it was a quick read which I think is perfect for the summer.
