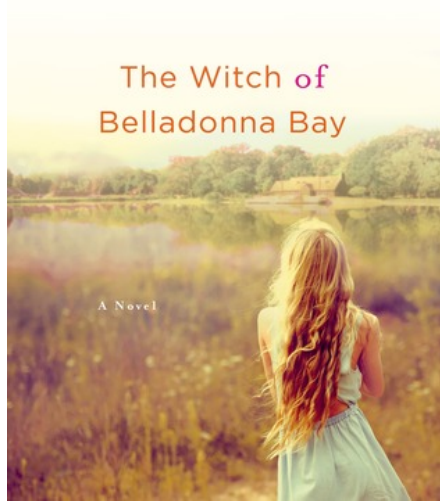


"Murder, mystery and magic meld in a novel of absolute enchantment. About the lies we tell, the love we struggle for, and the way we find our way back to our rightful place in the world, Palmieri's book is a stunner."—CAROLINE LEAVITT, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Pictures of You and Is This Tomorrow*

Suzanne Palmieri

The Witch of
Belladonna Bay



The Witch of Belladonna Bay

Suzanne Palmieri

Download now

Read Online →

The Witch of Belladonna Bay

Suzanne Palmieri

The Witch of Belladonna Bay Suzanne Palmieri

It's the trouble you aren't expecting that gets you. And it's all around you, Bronwyn, it's all around you like the air....

Bronwyn "BitsyWyn" Whalen hasn't set eyes on the red dirt of Magnolia Creek, Alabama, for fourteen years - not since her mama died. But with her brother, Patrick, imprisoned for the murder of her childhood best friend, and her eccentric father, Jackson, at his wits' end while her eleven-year-old niece, Byrd, runs wild, Bronwyn finds herself once again surrounded by ancient magnolia trees and the troubled family she left behind. She becomes immersed in a whirlwind of mystery and magic as she tries to figure out what really happened that fateful night her friend died. And as her bond with Byrd deepens, Bronwyn must face the demons of her past in order to unravel her family's uncertain future.

In Suzanne Palmieri's thrilling new novel, *The Witch of Belladonna Bay*, readers will learn if love and magic are enough to bring a broken family back together.

The Witch of Belladonna Bay Details

Date : Published May 13th 2014 by St. Martin's Griffin

ISBN : 9781250015532

Author : Suzanne Palmieri

Format : Paperback 368 pages

Genre : Magical Realism, Fiction, Fantasy, Mystery, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Magic, Paranormal, Witches

 [Download The Witch of Belladonna Bay ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Witch of Belladonna Bay ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Witch of Belladonna Bay Suzanne Palmieri

From Reader Review The Witch of Belladonna Bay for online ebook

Carmen Blankenship says

I am now officially a HUGE fan of Suzanne Palmieri. I read The Witch of Little Italy and was so intrigued and pleased that I had to get Belladonna Bay right after I was done. This book to me, far exceeds The Witch of Little Italy..

I, like many, adore books set in the South. I live in Oregon and have never set foot in the South. Thanks to Dorthea Benton Frank, Anne Rivers Siddons, Pat Conroy, and Mary Alice Monroe I am so enchanted by the Souths' love of their land, their customs, and their past.

The Witch of Belladonna Bay has everything I could want in a book. A heroine who is flawed, feisty, and lost. Like most Chick Lit books about the South, this is a story about going home. Only home has a mysterious island, ghosts galore, magic, addiction, a murder mystery, a lost love, and strained Mother/Daughter relationship....

You will fall in love with Byrd, the young girl who is contains so much mystery and magic that it is hard to remember she is a little girl. I was fascinated by her characters and pray she makes an appearance in future books.

And let me tell you, any future books written by Suzanne Palmieri will be pre ordered the minute it is released. If you are in that stage where you just want to read something so good you cannot stand to go to work, or cook dinner... this is the one to get. Then let me know if you loved it as much as I did.

Edit... I just changed my rating from four to five stars because I have found myself thinking of this book and have pre ordered this Authors New book! Since its been 7 months and I've read nearly 70 books since I believe a five star rating is deserved.

Mary says

Another magical masterpiece by Suzanne Palmieri...I am a huge fan of all of Suzanne's books. Loved, loved, loved the Witch of Little Italy. And if I didn't know any better, I'd say Suzanne was following me around. Because I lived in NY, and while I can't prove it was an Amore sister, I did go to have my cards read a few times by a little old Italian lady in a smock who got up from the cards once or twice to go stir the vat of sauce in the kitchen. And having transplanted to Florida, and just finished the Witch of BellaDonna Bay, which just happens to take place in the South. And the magic in the South feels different, it's deeper, earthier. I loved this book. There was so much of "me" in it, I identified with many of the characters and situations. (I've collected mermaids for most of my life, too, go figure...) I think that's why I love SP's writing, her books speak to me. The characters are wonderful, average, and (like most of us) flawed. The mystery unfolds through their different narrations. It kept me completely spellbound. The themes of love, loss, the fact that everyone is both good and evil, learning to forgive, to live with your mistakes and regrets..they are the things most of us struggle with in our daily, dare I say, mundane lives. That's also what I appreciate about Suzanne's stories...the magic is such a natural part of life. She reminds me that even in a "mundane" life, magic exists. You don't have to "glow" to realize that you've made a serious connection with another human. Maybe you DO glow, and maybe that's what love is. Magic. Oh I just gave myself goosebumps.

Many of the published reviews I've seen put this book on their "Summer Reads" list. And while I can't deny it's a wonderful book to read at the beach or poolside (with a nice cold beverage, of course) it's not your "typical" summer reading fare. It's more substantial, a book you will think about for a long time. At least I know I will.

Sonja Arlow says

Bronwyn is called home to take care of her niece Byrd while getting to the bottom of the murder her brother is accused of. Along the way she needs to deal with all the reasons why she ran away from home at 17 while at the same time try keeping her family together.

The story is told in first person from the main characters Bronwyn, her niece Bryd and her dead mother Naomi.

Most of the characters were well described and relatable but I had a little bit of a problem with Byrd.

Now she is the quintessential sassy southern girl on the brink of womanhood. Running wild, mouthing off to anyone who dares cross her, while just waiting for someone to see past the hard front and love her. I have come across versions of Byrd in other southern books but in this story Byrd was just a little bit too much of everything. She is too precocious, too wise for her years. It started grating on me a bit just how much her community allowed her to get away with. If felt forced. Yes I know this story is full of magic and you need to be able to suspend your disbelief a little but somehow I could never completely immerse myself into this story.

The ending also felt a bit mashed up and not worth the build-up that preceded it.

This book is full of southern charm and magic – I normally love both these elements but somehow it didn't completely work for me.

Suzanne says

Suzanne Palmieri has done it again in her second book of The Lost Witch Series! A spellbinding tale set in the backdrop of the romantic (and hauntingly mystical) south, full of quirky and kooky characters--You will simply fall in love with little Byrd Whalen. A poignant tale which will have you giggling, squirming, and tearing up in ALL the right spots!!!!

Jennifer Gallagher says

Of I could give this book six stars, I would. It's an absolutely beautiful literary work and it's one if those amazing books that sticks with you. I learned something from this book. Something about love, something about family, something about loyalty, and something about trust. The different perspectives are Ms. Palmieri's hallmark, and she does it with such grace and ease. I loved this book. Simply and truly.

Chi says

GoodReads Giveaway

Thanks for giving me an opportunity to read such amazing books. So I was very happy with this book that I needed to write my review in Tagalog, here it goes....Madami na ako nabasa lalo na about people with strange ways pero this one is different hindi puro magic but also talked about relationship with family hindi puro imbento. Siguro ung iba hindi naniniwala sa hula pero sabi nga nila you have to believe for it to work. I was lucky to be given an Arc copy and I really love it.

SPOILER!!FF are lines from the book:

-Nothing you ever worry over actually happens. It's the trouble you aren't expecting that gets you.

-The things we hold closest to our hearts are the things we just can't seem to see.

-Whatever a person does, they should have a second chance at happiness and redemption. As long as they remember it ain't about other people. It's about forgiving yourself from the inside out.

-EVERYONE HAS A DARK SIDE.

Stacy Sties says

This is another beautifully written book by Suzanne Palmieri. She does a wonderful job of unfolding the story in such a way that you are surprised and touched all at the same time. Many times during the story we are just as confused by what is going on as Wyn is but in a way that makes you feel for Wyn's guilt for being away for so long. All of the characters have pasts that they need to come to terms with, some more than others and who to trust and who to love is all part of the mystery. This is a stand alone novel but weaves people and history from *The Witch of Little Italy* which makes this book that much more charming.

Sue says

As I neared the end of the book, I found myself with a satisfied feeling, thinking "this is my kind of book." The characters are so well drawn, so detailed, without being over-wrought. The magic is perfect and the essence of living in the south is, well, also perfect. The turns of phrase, the ease and acceptance of the people all echoed my own experience perfectly. This book is a treasure.

Erica says

First, I feel I would be remiss if I did not provide a disclaimer.

Here is my disclaimer: <http://006point7ekgo.wordpress.com/20...>

Now onto the good stuff!

Part of my love for this book comes from that protective gene so many of us have. I love this book like I love kids who have been part of my life for years. They're not my kids but they're partly my responsibility because I know them and love them. That's what I feel toward this book - it's not mine, but I'm still

protective of it. Isn't that the definition of "fangirl"?

At any rate, this by no means makes the book meritless. Suzanne is a master of the moment - she can describe a place in time, complete with surroundings, characters, emotions, and turn it into a shining diamond, something you want to look at then re-examine so you can see and re-see each faceted, framed instant. She writes some seriously beautiful words and creates some heartbreakingly delightful characters.

I adore Byrd. I have loved her since the first time I read her. She's just a little mess of wonderful and snottiness, of sweet, spicy, and sour. She's a handful, a brat, a wild little thing, and she's made of all the best childhood memories. She is, hands-down, my favorite part of this entire story.

My favorite chapter? Chapter 21. For me, this chapter with the ghosts and the letter from Stella, it's like a twist tie. It's not really part of the story until that moment and then it winds around and holds everything together. I want you to know that I HATED Stella until this chapter happened. Afterward, well, I'll accept those Amores now that there's one I like.

There's a strong underlying mother/daughter theme woven throughout. This speaks to me because, like many daughters, I have had issues with my mother and I understand the longing to be a beloved child. Part of this theme shows up in an aunt/niece relationship which is also meaningful to me because of my strong relationships with both of my nieces. To me, this was all bittersweet and delicious.

So with all this gushing, you'd think there's be five stars up there, right?
Well, not quite.

I had two problems with this book, one that Suzanne is probably tired of hearing about and the other that re-manifested while reading this published, printed, real-life version.

First: Naomi.

I have *always* had a problem with Naomi. I know why she's there, her story is important in that it gives another side to what we wouldn't get from Wyn's or Byrd's perspectives. However, she never seemed to fit in. Her parts kick me out of the narrative and I wind up feeling I'm reading something entirely different. Funny aside: After this went to publication, Suzanne told me (this is not verbatim), "Oh, I figured out how to fix the problem with Naomi" and I was all, "HOW? She's IMPOSSIBLE!" and she told me and I said, "Riiiiight. Yes! That is exactly what would have fixed the whole thing." Unfortunately, it was too late and Naomi got to stay and she continues to irk me.

Second: The Mystery.

Specifically the Carter/Paddy part of The Mystery. I followed everything else except for how those two play into it; they create more suspicion in my mind, more questions, more "Wait, no...that doesn't make sense because..." Chapter 29 is my least favorite; to me, it seemed like a weak link, a glossed-over explanation but one that isn't satisfying. I mean, I know what it means and where it's going but it didn't convince me, didn't give me the feeling of "Yes. This is exactly right and everything just fell into place. Mystery solved!" I don't have a lot of scribbles in my Book of Manuscript Notes during that part so I don't know what I felt the first few times I looked at it but Carter/Paddy felt weak and wobbly this time around.

Two minor things but they're enough to keep that fifth star at bay.

These are issues that may not bother other readers. If none of that sounds troublesome to you and you love light mysteries cushioned in tales of families, ghosts, addiction, unhealthy relationships, coming home, finding oneself, and some soft romance (not soft-core "romance", just soft romance) I strongly suggest reading this, perhaps during summer vacation while lying in a hammock under some trees.

Original thoughts:

I cannot wait for this to come out in real-time. I need to read the end product before I give any stars because I need to see how it really looks on paper before I give my final thoughts. I can tell you, though, it will be 4 or 5 stars.

At this point, I can recommend this story to those who love Scout from *To Kill a Mockingbird*, readers who liked the ambience of *The Secret Life of Bees* even though this is nothing like that, really, except for the folks with problems who live in the south and love the land around them, and, as with *The Witch of Little Italy*, fans of Sarah Addison Allen and Adriana Trigiani.

Diane S ? says

Leaving home when she was seventeen, after her mothers death and a fight with her father, Wynn moves from the sultry south to the north. She has a relationship with Ben, who hopes to marry her, but she is called back home when a young niece that she has never met, needs her. The younger brother she left behind is now in prison for killing Wynn's best friend of her youth and possibly for the death of her young son.

It was very easy to be drawn into this story, the characters and the descriptions were just fantastic. The hot, humid weather, cold lemonade, magnolia trees, and a young Byrd, aged eleven who is a wonderful little girl with an old soul. There is southern charm, and a whole lot of magic. There are spirits who talk and try to guide the way. Young love and a huge mystery that must be solved.

A novel about finding ones self as Wynn finally learns, "If you're broken, be broken. If you're crazy, be crazy, If you're opinionated, yell your opinions from the rooftop. If you have strange ways? See it as a blessing, not a curse."

A novel about forgiveness, coming to terms with the past. Ultimately a novel about coming home again.

Kayla at MyBookMuse says

"I was Southern Belle mixed with rattlesnake. My venom hurt people."

Bronwyn "BitsyWyn" Whalen is a layered character who is pretty normal considering the dysfunction she found herself growing up around. Not only was the relationship with her parents a source of heartache and contempt but growing up with "shine" in her blood didn't make things any easier. When she goes back to her hometown after 14 long years away, Brownwyn is forced to confront her past in order to not only save her brother from his wrongful imprisonment but to protect her precocious niece, Byrd, from forces supernatural and otherwise threatening to hurt her.

While this is a departure from the romance-fueled books I read I found myself enjoying this story for the magic and suspense and the whodunit style of the story. Not only was I constantly second guessing what was going to happen but I found myself pleasantly shocked and heartbroken over the twists that Brownwyn, Byrd

and the rest of the Whalen family encountered along this journey.

One of the biggest strengths of this novel, besides Byrd, Bronwyn's precocious niece, was the Southern-Gothic tone in which this story was told. Lush in imagery, Magnolia Creek felt like a place I could have visited based on descriptions alone. I found myself wanting to sit on a wrap-around porch, sippin' sweet tea as I read along.

I did have a few issues that I ultimately feel could have been resolved had I read previous novels this author wrote that touched on other characters featured in this book. I feel like I didn't exactly grasp the true understanding of Brownwyn's "shine" or magic. It was more or less explained on the vague side of things and I had to re-read a few key parts to make sure I didn't miss out on what exactly was going on. Also the multiple POV's, including a few from Brownwyn's dead mother, while informative kind of took me out of the present story.

Despite a few hickups and a lack of romance (I can't help it. There was romance but a *little* more would have went a long way) I really enjoyed this book. Not only did I enjoy the author's writing style but the characters, especially Byrd, were well written and full of depth and the story constantly kept me on my toes. **The Witch of Belladonna Bay** is a story about family and forgiveness with a touch of magic and a hint of Southern charm.

4 stars*

ARC provided by St. Martins Griffin in exchange for an honest review

Casey says

Such a wonderful book.. I never wanted it to end. I would have been content just hearing about the rest of their lives.. It broke my heart at times but yet made me happy all over again.. I was impressed by Suzanne's writing abilities and I cannot wait to get my hands on her other novels.

'It seems to me, that whatever a person does, they should have a second chance in happiness and redemption. As long as they remember it ain't about other people. It's about forgiving yourself from the inside out.'

Kelley says

Forced at times. Things wrapped up just a little toooooo smoothly. Byrd seemed much older than her years. But there were some deep thoughts interwoven which struck a chord in me. And I do like a story with ghosts.

Casey says

Fans of Suzanne Palmieri will not be disappointed with her forthcoming novel. The lovely, magical feel to

her writing is still front and center in *The Witch of Belladonna Bay*, and Palmieri brings us on a new journey of discovery and learning to love oneself - this time with a bit of mystery.

This is the third novel from Suzanne Palmieri, the second published under her name, and each story gets better and better.

Kathleen Smith says

I just stumbled across Suzanne Palmieri from another authors posting on Facebook and have now read all 3 of her books: *I'll be Seeing You*, *The Witch of Little Italy*. She is fantastic. Her stories are rich and painted with wonderful colors that make them come alive. I feel like I felt when I was a child and listened to the radio....Visualization is so important when you read, and very few authors accomplish this..... I want to have dinner on the porch of the Big House, sleep in the play house that Byrd fixed up, dance with the fireflies barefoot in the grass. Magic, pure magic! Thank you for another wonderful book. Not to mention that these wonderful people are added to my family....How lucky am I .
