



The Blue Roan Child

By Jamieson Findlay

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First published to great critical acclaim in Canada, this unforgettable adventure traces the magical relationship between a young girl and a wild mare. A horse story like no other.

Syeira is an orphaned girl who lives in a magical land. Fate pairs Syeira with Arwin, a wild mare whose two colts have been taken from her by the evil Lord Ran. Syeira pledges to help Arwin, and they embark on a dangerous quest to free the colts. Along the way, they encounter an array of strange and mysterious characters. But Syeira and Arwin must only trust each other --and it is their shared strength and courage that ultimately allows them to defeat Lord Ran and free Arwin's colts.

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The Blue Roan Child By Jamieson Findlay Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8—Orphaned Syeira, about 12, has grown up in the royal stables of the Hayselean kingdom and developed a talent for working with horses. She especially admires three wild horses just captured by the king's handlers: a blue roan mare, so called for the white hairs mixed through her blue-black coat, and her two foals. When the evil lord of a neighboring kingdom steals the foals, Syeira frees the mare and joins her quest to find her young. The relationship between Arwin and the girl deepens until Syeira has become like another child to the blue roan. Never anthropomorphized, the horses communicate with humans wordlessly, through a highly original language of smells and scent pictures. Lots of olfactory details enrich the well-realized, preindustrial setting. The story is overstuffed with interesting characters and situations, including an herbalist addicted to a memory-enhancing plant, hot-air balloons used as war engines, winged horses, a murderous small bird turned third-rate artist—and that's not even the half of it. Some of these great ideas sidetrack rather than enhance the plot, and the generally lyrical writing style breaks down in places, but overall this is an enjoyable fantasy from a new writer to be watched.—*Beth Wright, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, VT*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 5-8. Balms and potions abound in this first novel, among them Medic Synonyma, a tincture that causes a "treeful of synonyms to bloom in [the] mind." There is certainly a bountiful harvest of words to be enjoyed in Findlay's prose, which invites readers to visualize the "confetti meander" of butterflies in flight or the "lemon-bright" glow of a sunny day. Such images enhance his vision of a rustic fantasy world where horses of rare, ancient stock can communicate with certain highly sensitive humans. It is such a bond that sends Syeira, a preteen orphan girl, on a dangerous quest to reunite a mare with her colts, cruelly stolen by a warmongering ruler. Along the way, Syeira encounters a series of eccentric characters whose assistance helps her both free the colts and, inadvertently, galvanize a civil war. Although Findlay's lingering affection for dense description, symbolism, and stories within stories may put off some readers, many fantasy devotees will relish his richly embroidered imaginings. Try this on fans of Mary Hoffman's equestrian fantasy, *Stravaganza: City of Stars* (2002). *Jennifer Mattson*

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Review

"Jamieson Findlay is a romancer of words, a charmworker, and a fabulous new find. **The Blue Roan Child** is a story redolent of honey and applewood, of homeweave and the sweet breath of horses. But be warned: the pastoral pace of the early chapters soon gives way to a canter and, in time, to a wild and exhilarating gallop." -- Tim Wynne-Jones, two-time winner of the Governor General's Award for Children's Literature

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Terry Kopp:

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Virginia Glass:

The actual book The Blue Roan Child will bring that you the new experience of reading a book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book you just read, this book very ideal to you. The book The Blue Roan Child is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

Jorge Eaton:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read the book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day every day to reading a reserve. The book The Blue Roan Child it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the e-book. You can m00re effortlessly to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book possesses high quality.

Rose Bennett:

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