



## Dreamcatcher

*Ann Curtin*

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## **Dreamcatcher** Ann Curtin

Jesse Alvarez is tired of being the new kid every time his dad takes a job on another ranch. It doesn't help that Cade Savage, the boss's son, is a bully who has everything Jesse wants—money, a permanent home, horses, and most of all, a mother who lives with his family.

Then Jesse meets Aaron Little Elk, who lives on the Wind River Reservation, steals scraps of yarn from the art room to make dreamcatchers, and never stops talking about his older brother Reuben.

Despite that, they become friends, and when Aaron stops coming to school, Jesse worries—and learns of a secret Aaron has been harboring. As he tries to find out what's happened to his friend, Jesse must unravel the mystery of Aaron's dreamcatchers and their connection to the wild paint mustang only Aaron can handle.

Part contemporary western, part ghost story, Dreamcatcher is ultimately a novel about friendship, the pain of letting go, and the importance of holding on to what remains behind.

## **Dreamcatcher Details**

Date : Published September 22nd 2015 by Zumaya Thresholds (first published September 20th 2015)

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Author : Ann Curtin

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## From Reader Review Dreamcatcher for online ebook

### Laura James says

A book that will appeal to any kid who has ever felt like an outsider or had to face up to a bully. Thirteen-year old Jesse Alvarez and his father are constantly on the move, as his dad seems to hop from one ranch job to another. The pair land at Savage Ranch, where the owner's son, Cade, is a mean and snarky bully. Jesse tries his best to steer clear of Cade, but that becomes difficult after Cade's father lends Jesse a horse to compete against Cade in a junior rodeo. A further complication arises after Jesse befriends another of Cade's targets, Shoshone classmate Aaron Little Elk. Aaron, the sad victim of poverty and grief, makes dreamcatchers to deal with a past trauma. When Aaron disappears into the Wind River Mountains - with Jesse's horse - Jesse must untangle the mysterious connection between Aaron's dreamcatchers and the horse. As an adult, I really liked this book. The author blended real life events with elements of magical realism and spooky supernatural events! And just when I thought the story was ending the author added unexpected twists. Sure, horse lovers will like this book, but so will mystery lovers

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### Terry Dulhaven says

My son's teacher says he is a "reluctant" reader. Translation: he hates to read. But he loved this book. It also touched me on many levels as well. My son and I took turns reading chapters out loud to each other. I knew he really liked the book when he reminded me it was my turn to read. He never griped about reading it to me either. This book will speak to any kid that has ever been the new kid in school or has had to deal with bullies. Yes, this is a book about loss and family separation, but it is also about friendship and the resiliency of kids. I loved the way the author tied the dreamcatchers made by the Shoshone boy, Aaron to the wild mustang in the story. There are a lot of twists and turns to plot, Just when you think the story is over, the author takes you to another place and ramps up the tension. A good read that will make your kids think.

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### Rebecca McNutt says

*Dreamcatcher* is a powerful, artistic and beautiful little novel, combining western genre themes with the supernatural and introducing two unlikely friends who learn that even in the worst of times, having the best of companions can keep you motivated.

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### Clarissa says

This is a wonderful refreshing book of all ages. And the way that Ann Curtin describes the horses is magical! The story is about Jesse, the new kid all the time because his father goes from ranch to ranch for work. At Big Bob's Ranch will he find the home he is looking for. You meet characters like Cade, who reminded me of Draco from Harry Potter and the very eccentric Aaron who lost his brother a year earlier to violence. This book deals with everything friendship, loss, divorce, family, being new. You get more of the western vibe than the ghost story. It's not scary but it's a fun fast read that anyone from 8 and up would enjoy. Good job Ann!

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**Drucilla says**

I'm almost 100% positive that I reviewed this already so I think Goodreads ate it. It's been a while since I read this so I can't give into too many specifics regarding my feelings on this book. I do remember liking the story a lot, though the back half of the book is especially loaded with plot/story stuff leaving the book a little unbalanced. The characters were good too, especially Aaron. I really liked him and his arc. Sorry I couldn't be more specific.

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