



Book Review: Rainbows

By Dr. Linda Hancock

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Hancock has written a regular weekly column entitled "All Psyched Up" for newspapers in two Canadian provinces for more than a dozen years. Over the years, her readers and clients have said that they have benefited from her common-sense solutions, wisdom, and sense of humour. Dr. Linda Hancock, the author of "Life is An Adventure...every step of the way" and "Open for Business Success" is a Registered Psychologist who has a private practice in Medicine Hat. She can be reached at 403-529-6877 or through email office@drlindahancock.com

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"Rainbows" is a fascinating tale about two sisters who seem so different from each other yet each has creative ability and the desire to bridge the emotional gap that has grown between them from the first day that they met.

Alexa Taylor is the older of the two and has gained notoriety as an actress. Her beauty and abilities have given her a high-profile position in society that opens doors to admiration from individuals in both the political and entertainment realms.

Her younger sister, Catherine, is an accomplished pianist who is opposite in that she has a shyness and innocence about her. Her bond with their parents, Jane and Alexander, appears to be stronger than the one that Alexa has with any of them or anyone else for that matter.

Then circumstances occur that allow the young women an opportunity to share living accommodations and work on their relationship. Both of them are worried about how this will evolve but both have a strong desire to get to know the other and hopefully find a friendship that they have never known.

And as the plot develops, we are able to join the sisters in their struggles that not only include their own relationship, but also relationships that they have with friends, lovers and their own identities. The people they meet and the things that they do all seem to be tied to the Mediterranean isle of L'île des Arcs-en-ciel - the Island whose rainbows are a phenomena unknown anywhere else on earth.

This book has everything that you might imagine - love, hurt, murder, international intrigue, romance, politics, and secrets. So many secrets that each person holds and refuses to reveal because of their own fears.

The only criticism that I have regarding this book is that the characters frequently state that they will not tell the truth because of the love that they have towards another person and how honestly might hurt the other one. This is a repetitive theme that became somewhat annoying at times. Even though hiding the truth allowed the story to take interesting twists, I kept thinking that the real truth was that those with secrets were often either trying to protect themselves or just lacking in assertiveness skills and maturity rather than being honourable because of their love.

In fact, there seemed to be an underlying theme of confusion when it came to love. The girls easily moved from one relationship to another thinking and saying that they loved each person who they were with at the time and it was difficult to determine if they were truly in love or just didn't really know anything about love.

In the end, however, reconnection with parents and the sacrifice that true love exhibits, leads the sisters into the type of happy ending that one would expect from any good romance story.

Evil gets what it deserves, all the secrets are revealed and the good guys get the girls!

"Rainbows" by New York Times Bestselling author Katherine Stone offers you 500 pages that spin a yarn about three generations and their lives over a period of several decades.