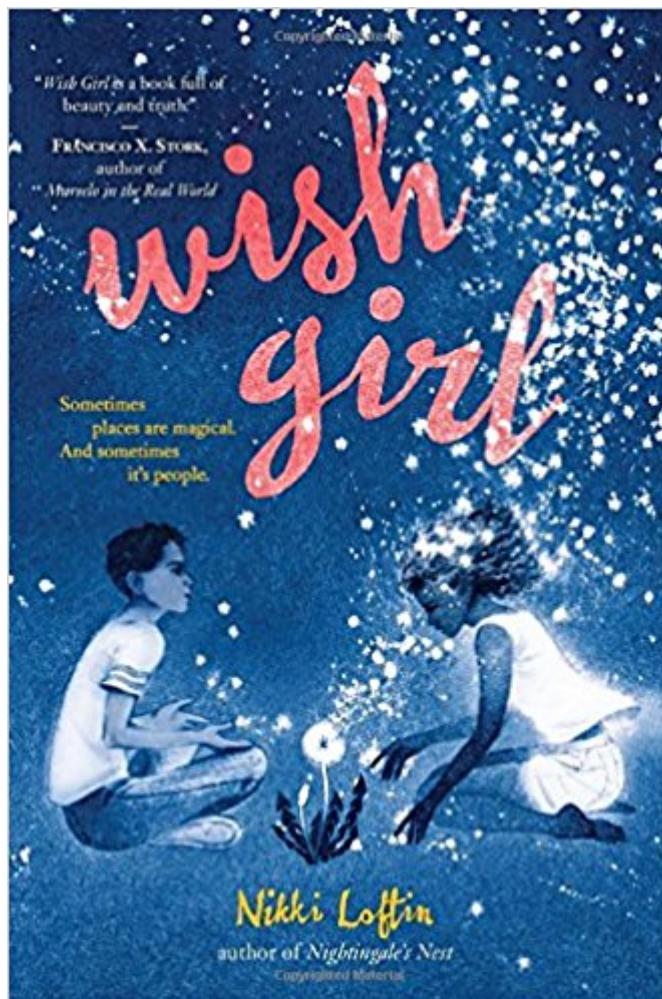


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# Wish Girl



## Synopsis

A dying girl gives a boy the strength to live in this lyrical novel that will break your heart and lift your spirit Peter Stoneâ™s parents and siblings are extroverts, musicians, and yellersâ "and the louder they get, the less Peter talks, or even moves, until he practically fits his last name. When his family moves to the Texas Hill Country, though, Peter finds a tranquil, natural valley where he can, at last, hear himself think. There, he meets a girl his age: Annie Blythe. Annie tells Peter sheâ™s a âœwish girl.â • But Annie isnâ™t just any wish girl; sheâ™s a âœMake-A-Wish Girl.â • And in two weeks she will begin a dangerous treatment to try and stop her cancer from spreading. Left alone, the disease will kill her. But the treatment may cause serious, lasting damage to her brain.â Annie and Peter hatch a plan to escape into the valley, which they begin to think is magical. But the pair soon discovers that the valleyâ "and lifeâ "may have other plans for them. And sometimes wishes come true in ways they would never expect.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0590 (What's this?)

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Razorbill; Reprint edition (February 23, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1595146873

ISBN-13: 978-1595146878

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #396,545 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #204 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life #341 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #5287 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Gr 4â "7â "In this companion to *Nightingale's Nest* (Razorbill, 2014), 12-year-old Peter Stone's new home in rural Texas is completely unlike his previous life in San Antonio. Even in the quiet of the country, his family is too loud. They never stop to understand sensitive, introverted Peter. The boy

soon ventures into the valley and meets the infuriatingly fascinating Annie, a self-proclaimed "wish girl." He wonders if she might be magical, like the mysterious valley. However, what she really means is "Make-a-Wish girl": Annie has cancer. Weaving in elements of magical realism, this modern story combines light fantasy elements with the harsh reality of Peter's life, including some harrowing past experiences with bullies and a period of dark depression and thoughts of self-harm. The fears and dreams of the characters unfold as they make difficult, sometimes life-changing decisions. The valley is a character, too, mysteriously directing animals and plants to help friends or hinder foes. Peter's first-person perspective is outshined by descriptions of feisty Annie, who dreams of becoming a world famous artist. Through the creation of site-specific environmental pieces, Annie teaches Peter about the transformative power of art and ephemeral beauty. Other themes include bullying and the value of listening. Peter knows the names and habits of many geographically specific flora and fauna, though it's never fully explained why a city boy has such extensive knowledge of natural science. Nevertheless, this is an intensely compelling story.

**VERDICT** This emotional story will be loved by fans of *Nightingale's Nest*, as the plot structure, atmosphere, and characters are similar. --Amy Seto Musser, Denver Public Library --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Praise for *Wish Girl*:\* "A moving, mesmerizing story of wishing, listening and hope." --Kirkus Reviews, starred review "I found hope and magic tucked gently into every page of *Wish Girl*. I wish every reader could have a friend like Annie." --Natalie Lloyd, author of *A Snicker of Magic* "*Wish Girl* is a book full of beauty and truth. Its pages are filled with the emotion of first love and the energy of suspense." --Francisco Stork, author of *Marcelo in the Real World* "*Wish Girl* is a book that knows real magic exists-- that art, nature, and true friendship have the power to save lives and transform the world. It's at once earthly and ethereal, heartbreakingly hopeful. It dazzles." --Laurel Synder, author of *Bigger Than a Breadbox* Praise for Nikki Loftin's *Nightingale's Nest*: â œlt was the writing, of course, that struck my attention first. Loftin gives the book beautiful sequences filled with equally beautiful sentences. . . . As for the characters, there wasn't a person here that I couldn't recognize as real. I was quite taken with the fact that Loftin continually sidesteps a lot of the usual middle grade tropes. . . . Smart and beautiful by turns, *Nightingale's Nest* does one thing that few will contest. Once you've read it, you'll have a hard time getting it out of your head.â • â "Elizabeth Bird, School Library Journal blog\* "Unusual, finely crafted story of loss, betrayal, and healing." â "Kirkus Reviews, starred review\* "Magical realism meets coming of age in this sensitive and haunting novel . . . . Read this aloud and have both boys and girls alike utterly

enraptured." â "BCCB, starred review "It is Loftinâ™s skill in depicting both the human and the arboreal characters that will engage and inspire readers. The lyrical, descriptive prose and the hopeful ending will linger long after the final chapter." â "School Library Journal "Riveting. . . . This is a book you'll long remember."â "Lynda Mullaly Hunt, author ofÂ One for the Murphys "An extraordinary readâ "I had to tear myself away from it."â "Katherine Catmull, author of Summer and Bird "Perfectly captures the challenges of growing up and dealing with loss. Get ready to have your heart touched."â "Shannon Messenger, author of Keeper of the Lost Cities "Tugs and tears at the readerâ™s heart. . . . lovely and magical."â "Bethany Hegedus, author of Truth with a Capital T and Between Us Baxters "Loftin's eye for strange beauty in unexpected places often takes the reader's breath away."â "Claire Legrand, author of The Cavendish Home for Boys and Girls "Will haunt your soulâ "and lift your heart."â "Kimberley Griffiths Little, author of The Healing Spell and When the Butterflies Came "A haunting, beautifully told story!"â "Bobbie Pyron, author of The Dogs of Winter and A Dog's Way Home "The kind of book I wanted to read slowly."â "Shelley Moore Thomas, author of The Seven Tales of Trinket "This is a work of tremendous heart."â "Anne Ursu, author of Breadcrumbs Praise for Nikki Loftin's The Sinister Sweetness of Splendid Academy: "A mesmerizing read."â "Publishers Weekly "An irresistible contemporary fairy tale."â "Kirkus Reviews From the Hardcover edition.

It's a very touching book. Started reading it because my 10 yr old came home from school and wanted to read it. Having a kids kindle I decided that I would also read it. Even though it was a kid geared book I couldn't put it down. I am a admit reader definately recommend this book even for adults!

I read the book to my class and they loved it. It took me five days, but every morning the students would ask if I could read a couple of chapters. Good book!

I loved this book it was that best book I have read so far I loved how you told a story that could sorta happen in real life

My 10 year old daughter loved this book!

During my time reading this book I learned a bunch of lessons. there was a blend of sadness and happiness in the book. This book was as good as the book A Fish in a Tree. I would totally

recommend this book to young readers, (4 or 5 graders ) since it is full of greatness. I think I might have found a new favorite book. ☺ ☺ ☺ Loved it!!!

Great story about friendship, adolescence, and communication/understanding among parents and children! Highly recommended this book. My daughter and I read it together and she couldn't wait to read the next chapter each time.

Nikki Loftin's writing is compelling and tender and thoughtful. Her books are not just for young adults. They'll bring a bit of nostalgia for older readers, too. Highly recommend.

I loved this book. The language is beautiful. The story is superb. I think everyone can relate to the characters at some point in their lives. I highly recommend to anyone. I bought for my kids and copies for their school to share.

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