



Dearest (The Woodcutter Sisters)

By Alethea Kontis

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“A fabulous fairy-tale mashup that deserves hordes of avid readers. Absolutely delectable.” —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review of award-winning series debut *Enchanted*

Readers met the Woodcutter sisters (named after the days of the week) in *Enchanted* and *Hero*. In this delightful third book, Alethea Kontis weaves together some fine-feathered fairy tales to focus on Friday Woodcutter, the kind and loving seamstress. When Friday stumbles upon seven sleeping brothers in her sister Sunday’s palace, she takes one look at Tristan and knows he’s her future. But the brothers are cursed to be swans by day. Can Friday’s unique magic somehow break the spell?

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Dearest (The Woodcutter Sisters) By Alethea Kontis Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—Friday takes center stage in this follow-up to the companion tales about the Woodcutter's daughters, *Enchanted* (2012)—in which Sunday kisses a frog—and *Hero* (2013, both Houghton Harcourt), featuring Saturday. Kontis continues to artfully interweave fairy-tale plots and nursery-rhyme references, as Friday (who is, true to form, loving and giving) sews patchwork outfits and tends to the refugee children in the kingdom of Arilland, now ruled by Sunday and ex-frog Rumbold. While investigating a tower, she almost falls into the sea, rescued from certain death by seven swans, who can return to their human forms only at night. One swan in particular, Tristan, captures her heart, and with the help of Rampion (an enchanted servant and sister to the swans) and others, Friday sets out to break the spell and save Arilland from destruction by the evil Mordant, Gana, and the Infidel. Readers will enjoy spotting storybook references from many sources (helpers named Wendy, John, and Michael; a town called Hammelyn). Magical adventure, occasional humor, and moments of gentle romance make this a good choice for younger to mid-teen readers. *Enchanted*, *Hero*, and now *Dearest* will be at home in most libraries, and with more sisters to tell their tales, the series looks sure to continue, which will please fans.—Maggie Knapp, Trinity Valley School, Fort Worth, TX

Review

"Magical adventure, occasional humor, and moments of gentle romance make this a good choice for younger to mid-teens. *Enchanted*, *Hero*, and now *Dearest* will be at home in most libraries."

—*School Library Journal*

"A mashup of the original seven swan brothers fairy tale, ingeniously woven with new twists. . . . Magic abounds."

—*VOYA*

"With her trademark wit and clever world building, this will easily appeal to fans of the series as well as readers who love fractured fairy tales."

—*Booklist*

About the Author

ALETHEA KONTIS is the author of the Woodcutter Sisters series, which includes *Enchanted*, *Hero*, and *Dearest*. She is also the *New York Times* best-selling co-author of Sherrilyn Kenyon's *The Dark-Hunter Companion*. Alethea was a student of science fiction greats Andre Norton and Orson Scott Card. She lives and writes on Florida's Space Coast. Visit her website at www.aletheakontis.com.

Users Review

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Tara Wilson:

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