



Moon Water

Written by Pam Webber

Published by sanmarco-sf

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Moon Water

By Pam Webber

Moon Water Uses

Set in the Blue Ridge Mountains during the summer of 1969, Moon Water finds Nettie, 16, with her boyfriend wanting to breakup just as they are figuring out the sex thing. Nettie's lifelong nemesis is jabbing her with perfectly polished nails, while her hellfire and brimstone preacher refuses to baptize her. Amid this turmoil, a Monacan Indian medicine woman gives her a cryptic message about a coming darkness, a blood moon whose veiled danger threatens Nettie and those she loves. To prepare for the darkness, Nettie and her best friend, Win, make a treacherous journey into the mountains to build a mysterious dreamcatcher of ancient elements.

I was so happy to find Nettie again in this story. Now, it's the summer of 1969, and she's in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Nettie and her boyfriend are thinking of breaking up.

Those are not the only hard times Nettie is experiencing, though. She has a lifelong nemesis bugging her left and right, and of all things, her preacher is refusing to baptize her.

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Nettie meets a Monacan (Native American) medicine woman who tells her about an upcoming darkness, specifically a blood moon, that will affect Nettie and her loved ones. I live not far from the Blue Ridge mountains, and the blood moon still has importance and intrigue today.

The medicine woman tells her she must prepare a dream catcher, which she does along with her best friend, Win.

Pam Webber is back with her beautifully simple storytelling. The native Monacan elements added interest, and with this region not being far from where I live, I was captivated with the history and touches of culture.

There was a light mystery here and great tension. I loved Nibi, the medicine woman's, sections with herbs and her resourceful knowledge of the wilderness. I also loved witnessing Win and Nettie interact with Nibi.

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Overall, Moon Water's characters shine, as does Pam Webber's smooth storytelling.

I received a complimentary copy. All opinions are my own.

Many of my reviews can also be found on my blog: www.jennifertarheelreader.com ...more

Moon Watercolor

“Some things must end for others to begin.”

Amazing story. Two sixteen-ish young women come of age in historical fiction set in Virginia’s Blue Ridge Mountains in 1969. Nettie gives up the freedom of childhood (see *The Wiregrass*) and expects certainty in adulthood: love, faith, friendship. Nope.

“Journeys force us to make choices that never leave our lives in the same place.”

Slow start leads to a cataclysm of Biblical portions, which actually happened fifty years ago. Excellent character and plot “Some things must end for others to begin.”

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“Journeys force us to make choices that never leave our lives in the same place.”

Slow start leads to a cataclysm of Biblical portions, which actually happened fifty years ago. Excellent character and plot development and foreshadowing, if occasionally telling too much too soon. Nettie lived in a different world: no computers, camera-equipped cell phones, social media, credit cards. Manners mattered. The focus is local; the moon landings, Vietnam War, and politics are offstage.

“Your job is simple: forgive it, forget it, and move on. Not only for their sake, but for yours.”

In 1969 Virginia was still shedding segregation laws which recognized only whites, lumping all others. Some Virginians had already made the transition; others still haven’t. Race is not an issue here, but Webber portrays all people with sympathy and respect, even the few who didn’t seem to deserve it.

“Sometimes what we’re searching for is right in front of us and we’re too distracted to see it.”

Part of growing up is deciding and declaring what you believe. Nettie reflects an honesty so pure it hurts. The confluence of Christianity and Native American spiritualism is not always as smooth as portrayed.

“I was baptized last night. I believed when I went into the water, and I believe now. The rest is icing.”

[Full disclosure: Pam Webber gave me an advance copy in return for an honest review. I won.] ...more

Moon Water

4 ⭐⭐⭐⭐

Wow, what an adventure! This was incredible! I really enjoyed it and I loved the elements of faith, love and a little bit of mystery.

Im crazy about romance so I wanted to know how Nettie was going to fix her situation. I loved her honesty and trouble followed her everywhere she went. She was likable and fun with lots of determination to love those closest to her.

There was lots of great characters with many hidden meanings and a great ending.

I will definitely read another by this author. 4 ⭐⭐⭐⭐

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I will definitely read another by this author. I thought it was very well written.

This was a NETGALLEY gift and all opinions are my own. ...more

Moon Water Recipe

See full review here: <http://www.yabookscentral.com/yaficti...>

MOON WATER follows Nettie in the summer of 1969 when her life is in turmoil. Nettie is 16 years old and her life is changing. She is not sure if she and her boyfriend, Andy- a childhood friend turned more-will last once they go to college, and this worry has been making her unsure of whether she loves him. Andy decides to give her a break until she can figure it out.

At the same time, she is preparing for baptism in the church. However, See full review here: <http://www.yabookscentral.com/yaficti...>

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At the same time, she is preparing for baptism in the church. However, Nettie still has a lot of questions about religion that she isn't sure about, and her honesty means she cannot lie to the pastor, resulting in a delay in her baptism. He assigns her to work with another pastor more closely to go over material and believe more fully before she is baptized.

Nettie and her BFF Win are inseparable and do everything together, and this summer is no different. As per usual, they often take the train to Win's grandmother Nibi. Nibi is a Monacan Shaman or Medicine Woman, and she has warnings for the girls with the upcoming blood moon. As part of this, she is teaching them carefully how to make dreamcatchers starting with how to painstakingly gather the materials they need. Many other lessons are tucked into the process.

What I loved: The best parts of the book were those with the dreamcatchers and the lessons that Nibi teaches the girls. I would have loved to be even more fully immersed in the Monacan culture and Nibi's vast knowledge. The plot is fast-paced, a lot of the story told in dialogue, which keeps things interesting and moving quickly. There are also some interesting debates on Christianity and good/evil in the context of Christianity (I would certainly label this as Christian fiction), as Nettie prepares for her baptism. Some of the concepts/lessons, such as good and evil coexisting and not being easy to separate, are universal, however.

What left me wanting more: The book seemed more focused on the Christian spiritual journey than on the Native American, and I was looking for more along the latter. I would also love to read a book from Win's point-of-view, exploring her culture more closely. Here, it was a secondary plot.

This may be a spoiler, so if you want to avoid them- skip this paragraph. A big part of the latter story

Moon Water

was sexual assault/harassment. While this is handled with some care (police mentioned), I would have liked to see more about the recovery/resources. Parents are hardly involved and no therapist or other resources are described. The book overall has a quick pace that does not get into the details, but this is a pretty big plot point here, so I would have liked to see more.

I would also add warnings for character death and natural disasters.

Final verdict: Overall, this is a fast-paced coming-of-age story that weaves some Native American traditions into Christian fiction with interesting morality and faith-based discussions. I would recommend for people looking for something unique that will spark interesting discourse on good/evil, sins, and moving forward after traumatic events. ...more

Best book I have ever read!

This book searches your soul & heart. I loved The Wiregrass & have read it three times. When this book came out I was thrilled because I knew it would be absolutely wonderful & that I would be taken away to the same place as the story was told. It is inspirational, heartfelt, & soul searching. There are two parts of it that are so funny that tears were rolling down my face as I couldn't stop laughing. It tears at your heart strings & has you looking Best book I have ever read!

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Moon Watermelon

"Nature doesn't seek right. It seeks balance." Thank you to NetGalley for the opportunity to review this book. A beautifully written and poignant coming of age story. Although this is a historical fiction novel, it has a little bit of everything, mystery, whimsy, humor, mysticism and adventure. The characters were very well developed and the descriptions transport you in time. I was invested in this story immediately and had a hard time putting it down. I would highly recommend this to anyone wh "Nature doesn't seek right. It seeks balance." Thank you to NetGalley for the opportunity to review this book. A beautifully written and poignant coming of age story. Although this is a historical fiction novel, it has a little bit of everything, mystery, whimsy, humor, mysticism and adventure. The characters were very well developed and the descriptions transport you in time. I was invested in this story immediately and had a hard time putting it down. I would highly recommend this to anyone who enjoys historical fiction.
...more

4.5/5.0

Further, the balance between Christian beliefs and Native traditions and beliefs is smoothly done and aids character development. Overall, this is a great read for teens and adults!

Read full review in the 2019 May issue of InD'tale Magazine.

Moon Water Bears

If you're old enough to remember 1969 you may recall reading of the devastation caused by Hurricane Camille and the flooding of biblical proportions that inundated an entire valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. It is within this framework that "Moon Water" is set. It chronicles 16 year old Nettie's struggles to choose wisely about decisions that will affect her entire future. To aid them in their rites of passage,

Nettie and her best friend Win are tasked with scouting out and obtaining several natural materials needed to make their dream catchers. This trek tests their courage, faith, hope, commitment and strength. Along the way Nettie begins to find answers to some of her more puzzling life questions - questions she's been struggling with, especially precepts that others blindly accepted. Her reputation for speaking her mind was well known. These questions led to Nettie's pastor refusing to baptize her. But then, this was 1969.

"Moon Water" is so much more than a trip down memory lane, but it does take us back to a simpler time, before cell phones and social media. This is a masterwork and deserves its own place among the classics. I approached this book with a ho-hum attitude that was quickly dispelled. You've all heard the mantra, "I couldn't put it down," I can testify that it's true. Pam Webber's writing is substance with style.

My thanks to She Writes Press for furnishing an ARC (Advance Reader Copy) for an honest and unpaid review. Publication date for "Moon Water" is August 20, 2019. and was named "Read of the Month" for September 2019 in the Southern Literary Review. Five stars.

"Moon Water" is

#NetGalley #MoonWater #PamWebber ...more

Moon Water by author Pam Webber is WONDERFUL! I enjoyed reading this story of 1969 teenage Nettie and her close friend Win. Nettie is an honest-hearted high school girl who has very strong opinions about good and evil, right and wrong but is not able to give her boyfriend Andy a definite answer if she will love him forever. She honestly can not promise forever but Andy is hurt and they take a break. I thoroughly was immersed in the counsel of Win's Grandmother Nibi who is a Monocan medicine woman

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a break. I thoroughly was immersed in the counsel of Win's Grandmother Nibi who is a Monocan medicine woman. I loved and respected the bridge of Christian beliefs and the Native American beliefs of spirituality and the soul. Nibi is concerned about the darkness which she feels is coming with the approaching Blood Moon. The story is set in the time preceding the onslaught of hurricane Camille and this story is based on the aftermath of destruction in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

Grandmother Nibi has challenged Win and Nettie to make their own dreamcatcher following the Native traditions of a medicine woman. She tells the girls it will be a source of protection in the coming darkness. Nibi gives guidance as needed and the two girls try to complete the process of gathering the items and making the dreamcatchers. The girls' adventures and learning experiences are very interesting.

Also, Nettie wants to be Baptised into her church. Her pastor feels she is not spiritually ready for the serious commitment of the water baptism. Nettie is disappointed and a bit frustrated. She is required to start counseling classes each Wednesday night after service with an associate of the church. Even though she is learning about how her attitudes and beliefs affect her faith, Nettie becomes suspicious of Mr. Danes motives. I won't post spoilers, but the coming catastrophe is heartbreaking! I held my breath as I read some scenes.

There were so many wonderful thoughts, explanations, and Christian beliefs along with the Native teaching that I had highlighted many passages of this book. As I said in the beginning, it is WONDERFUL! Thank you to NetGalley and the publisher for the opportunity to read and review this book. ...more

Moon Water Co

Pam Webber's second novel did not disappoint! Ever since reading her first novel, I've patiently waited more from this gifted author. Not only does she create strong, memorable characters, Webber writes with the ability to weave humor, love, pain, danger, mystery and nature in exquisite style.

I first met Nettie in Webber's first novel, *The Wiregrass*. Imagine my delight to find her waiting for me in *Moon Water*! She is now sixteen and carries with her all the complexities and angst of a girl her age. Pam Webber's second novel did not disappoint! Ever since reading her first novel, I've patiently waited more from this gifted author. Not only does she create strong, memorable characters, Webber writes with the ability to weave humor, love, pain, danger, mystery and nature in exquisite style.

I first met Nettie in Webber's first novel, *The Wiregrass*. Imagine my delight to find her waiting for me in *Moon Water*! She is now sixteen and carries with her all the complexities and angst of a girl her age. While Nettie is the main character in both of Webber's novels, it is important to note that each can be read as a stand alone novel.

In addition to her ability to create memorable and strong characters, Webber is also a master of crafting vivid imagery and a palpable sense of place. Readers are deftly transported into the beautiful yet sometimes treacherous Blue Ridge Mountains where Monacan Indian medicine woman Nibi instructs Nettie and her friend Win on valuable life skills as they search the mountain terrain for natural elements necessary to create a mysterious dreamcatcher.

You'll laugh. You'll shed a few tears. You'll gasp when taken off guard. You'll experience the dangers and the joys of being part of Nettie's life. And when all is said and done, you'll be left wanting more!

...more

Most of the time we pick the book, but ever so often, it's the book that picks us!

Never doubt a book's power of influence.

A true gift to a reader.

Pam Webber wrote such an extraordinary work of Art with *Moon Water*.

When I saw it I just knew it was speaking to me, without even reading the blurb I felt its pull.

I'll never forget Nibi, Win, and Nettie, or their adventures into nature's bounty.

Examining one's own life is the hardest endeavor to accomplish.

Win and Nettie apply lessons they learn from nature. Most of the time we pick the book, but ever so often, it's the book that picks us!

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Examining oneâ€™s own life is the hardest endeavor to accomplish.

Win and Nettie apply lessons they learn from nature into dreamcatchers, all weaved together into a beautiful coming of age gift.

Nibi knew an evil darkness would descend upon them when the blood moon rose, she knew preparing Win and Nettie before this fateful event occurs might be her last calling. Times running out, will they have time to absorb all Nibi needs them to learn?

â€œSome of the most important journeys start in the wrong direction.â€•

â€œSEE THE INVISIBLE, BELIEVE THE UNBELIEVABLE, AND RECEIVE THE IMPOSSIBLE.â€•

I highly recommend this book. I was given this book by netgalley for an honest review. ...more

Moon Water Chant

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It was at once entertaining and thought-provoking. The engaging story about the summer journey of the main characters, Nettie and Win kept my interest all the way through. But the interplay between good/evil, light/dark, and truth/lies made me pause every so often to think. Especially interesting were the differences and similarities between the Baptist teachings and the Monacan tribal traditions. We should all strive to have the faith, wisdom, courage, hope, strength and commitment Nettie discovers she has by the end of the book. ...more

I received this ARC from NetGalley and the publisher in exchange for my fair and honest review.

This was my first book by this author, and although this is more of a young adult book I feel any age group can enjoy this read. The book was very well written and integrated both Christian beliefs and those of the Native Americans. Nettie and Win face many different trials over this journey, only time will tell whether good will win over evil. I would recommend this book to others.

Moon Water

Moon Watercolor Tattoo

Best read in a long time!

This book has received a Discovering Diamonds Review:

Helen Hollick

founder #DDRevs

"This is a sweet coming of age novel that packs a bigger punch than at first you'd expect."

Moon Water Wicca

Pam Webber knocked it out of the park with this book. I could not put it down. I laughed at the hi-jinks the teens got into and cried at the tragedies that happened. The characters are strong and vulnerable at the same time. This book is a great story for teens and adults alike. I think this would be a great movie.

I thought this was a really good book, I read it in one day! It was very descriptive, I liked the characters and found the making of the dream catchers interesting. I loved it! Thanks to Netgalley for the early copy