



# Circus Mirandus

By Cassie Beasley

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**A New York Times Book Review Notable Children's Book of 2015**

**A New York Times Bestseller**

**Fans of *The Magician's Elephant*, *Savvy*, and Roald Dahl will fall in love with *Circus Mirandus*, which celebrates the power of seeing magic in the world.**

Do you believe in magic?

Micah Tuttle does.

Even though his awful Great-Aunt Gertrudis doesn't approve, Micah believes in the stories his dying Grandpa Ephraim tells him of the magical Circus Mirandus: the invisible tiger guarding the gates, the beautiful flying birdwoman, and the magician more powerful than any other—the Man Who Bends Light. Finally, Grandpa Ephraim offers proof. The Circus is real. And the Lightbender owes Ephraim a miracle. With his friend Jenny Mendoza in tow, Micah sets out to find the Circus and the man he believes will save his grandfather.

The only problem is, the Lightbender doesn't want to keep his promise. And now it's up to Micah to get the miracle he came for.

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## **Circus Mirandus By Cassie Beasley Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–6—Fifth-grader Micah Tuttle has been living with his Grandpa Ephraim since his parents died when he was very young. The two are close; Grandpa Ephraim teaches Micah how to tie complicated knots and tells him fanciful tales about the magical Circus Mirandus and its many performers, including a powerful illusionist called the Lightbender. When Grandpa Ephraim becomes gravely ill, his sister, the strict and dour Aunt Gertrudis, comes to take care of the household. She severely limits Micah's time with his sick grandfather, and the boy is distraught at the idea of losing the only important person in his life. In a stolen moment, Grandpa Ephraim surprises Micah by revealing that the Circus Mirandus is real, and that the Lightbender promised him a miracle when he was a child. The protagonist begins to hope that his grandfather will get well. The Circus Mirandus arrives in town on the wind, and Micah, with the help of his classmate Jenny Mendoza, seeks out the Lightbender and tries to retrieve the miracle that Grandpa Ephraim has requested. During a whirlwind adventure in the Circus, Micah learns about his family and discovers that the miracle that Grandpa Ephraim asked for might not be the one that Micah had in mind. Circus Mirandus is not a simple story, but readers will be rewarded for delving into its intricacies. **VERDICT** This gripping fantasy tale will have readers hooked from the opening scene to the breathtaking—and unexpected—conclusion.—Sarah Reid, Broome County Public Library, Binghamton, NY

Review

*Circus Mirandus* is a *New York Times* Book Review **EDITOR'S CHOICE!**

"A beguiling first novel"—**Gregory Maguire**, author of *Egg and Spoon*, in the *New York Times*

"Manifestations of belief and unbelief run through Cassie Beasley's charming debut, which takes readers to a marvelous place."—*The Wall Street Journal*

"You'll love the chance to believe in magic again."—*Redbook*

"Totally immersive (and plans for a movie version are in the works!)."—*Good Housekeeping*

"Cassie Beasley's story will enthrall older kids."—*Parents Magazine*

\* "The book is a fantastical circus romp...a delicious confection and much more: it shows that the human heart is delicate, that it matters, and that it must be handled with care."—*Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**

\* "This gripping fantasy tale will have readers hooked from the opening scene to the breathtaking—and unexpected—conclusion."—*School Library Journal*, **starred review**

\* "Readers will be left with the reminder that 'just because a magic is small doesn't mean it is unimportant' and the hope, reminiscent of **Peter Pan**, that those who still believe will always have magic in their lives."—*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"*Circus Mirandus* is an engaging, innovative tale that balances fantastical goings-on with an exploration of love, loss, friendship and the value of being open to the unexplainable."—*BookPage*

"Some books take readers to different places or let us experience fantastical lands, but *Circus Mirandus*

brings the magic to our world.” —*Scholastic Instructor*, “**50 Best Books for Summer**”

"Beasley elegantly fits together her story's many pieces, crafting a tale where magic is not an illusion but something we can all find....**A+**." —*Cleveland Plain Dealer*

"If you enjoy the magical tales of Roald Dahl, you will love this story about Micah Tuttle's search for a powerful magician named the Lightbender, who owes his dying grandfather a miracle." —*Kiki Magazine*, **Summer Book Club Pick**

"The tender relationship between grandfather and grandson is delicately drawn, and the family backstory, with its ties to a dark episode in the millennia-old history of Circus Mirandus, is intriguing...At the core of Beasley's debut novel is the theme of eternal life explored in Babbitt's *Tuck Everlasting*." —*BCCB*

"Debut author Beasley has built an imaginative world in evocative, painterly prose, particularly the circus, and she's filled it with compellingly multifaceted characters." —*Booklist*

"Studded with descriptions that make people and props alike come alive, this story will make readers wish so very badly that a circus, complete with gorilla balloons and mysterious bird ladies, will pop up one day in town and only accept those who truly believe in magic." —*VOYA*

#### About the Author

Cassie Beasley is from rural Georgia, where, when she's not writing, she helps out on the family pecan farm. She earned her MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults at the Vermont College of Fine Arts. *Circus Mirandus* is her first novel.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### George Carter:

Book is actually written, printed, or created for everything. You can realize everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. As we know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading talent was fluently. A reserve Circus Mirandus will make you to always be smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think this open or reading the book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or ideal book with you?

#### Matthew Wallace:

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**Robert Thomas:**

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**Ruth Ford:**

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