



The Book of Flying

By Keith Miller

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The Book of Flying By Keith Miller

A gorgeously poetic tale of fantasy for adults, *The Book of Flying* is a beautiful modern fable and daring new take on the quest narrative.

In Keith Miller's debut novel, our hero is Pico, a poet and librarian who is forbidden to pursue the girl of his dreams - for she has wings, and Pico does not. When he discovers an ancient letter in his library telling of the mythical Morning Town where the flightless may gain their wings, he sets off on a quest. It's a magical journey and coming-of-age story in which he meets a robber queen, a lonely minotaur, a cannibal, an immortal beauty, and a dream seller. Each has a story, and a lesson, for Pico-about learning to love, to persevere, and, of course, to fly.

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The Book of Flying By Keith Miller Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Solemnly sonorous and emptily pretty, this ersatz quest novel tells how a poet struggles to learn to fly and regain a lost love. In a city where some inhabitants sit in cafes while others fly over the sea, Pico, a wingless poet who works as a librarian, falls in love with one of the winged people. When she eludes Pico's grasp, he despairs until he discovers, hidden near his library, a book telling of a ruined town where he can get his own wings. He immediately sets off for the fabled town, his mission taking him through deep forests into the arms of a lusty, gorgeous robber queen whose charms diminish for the reader when she utters clichés like "It's the ultimate theft, the stealing of another's heartbeat." Other encounters—with a talking rabbit who has compiled many fascinating tomes on local flora; with a young man who, in addition to being the poet's near-spitting image, is a cannibal—bring the poet ever closer to his goal, though each new twist in his journey saps his strength. Wallowing in high-flown whimsy and laughably bad poetry ("His tears have entered every well/ and his semen is the sap of peaches"), the novel rolls along predictably, despite Miller's mix of archetypal fantasy elements (flying people, talking animals, journeys through dark woods) and contemporary detail (the love of cigarettes, ever-present cafes, one city composed largely of booksellers). The downbeat ending skirts the obvious, but little else does in this hot-air-filled debut.

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From [Booklist](#)

Pico is the librarian in his city by the sea: a humble, gentle man, a collector of books, a guardian and caretaker of the stories that are his breath and his life. One fateful day, he falls in love with Sisi, a beautiful, winged girl who cannot truly love a wingless creature like him. So Pico sets off to find Morning Town, where legend says he will find the Book of Flying and get his wings. On the way he has fabulous adventures and meets astonishing people, each of whom provides a gateway to learning something important about himself. Perhaps his most important discovery is that he is the hero of his own story. A beautiful and haunting modern fable that reads like exquisite poetry, Miller's first novel is a coming-of-age story cloaked in the language of myth in which Pico, as his humanity matures and expands to encompass those who are like and those who are unlike him, initially represents and eventually becomes the reader. *Paula Luedtke*
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Review

"Original in concept, elegant in language, funny, cruel, and tender." -- Ursula K. Le Guin

"This is a book that you can't wait to finish but read slowly, to make it last." -- *The Bloomsbury Review*

"A fabulistic tour de force, akin to the works of Jeff VanderMeer and Italo Calvino." -- Christopher Barzak, author of *One for Sorrow*

"A journey worth taking -- right through to the unexpected end. *The Book of Flying* is a beautiful debut novel." -- *Rambles Magazine*

A beautiful and haunting modern fable that reads like exquisite poetry... -- *Booklist*

Original...Exquisite...The very plentitude of stories flushes *The Book of Flying* with hope... -- *Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Maria Saad:

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always try and must have the spare time or they will get great deal of stress from both everyday life and work. So , whenever we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not only a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading guides. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is The Book of Flying.

Jamie Hernandez:

This The Book of Flying is great book for you because the content that is full of information for you who also always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it info accurately using great organize word or we can say no rambling sentences included. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but hard core information with wonderful delivering sentences. Having The Book of Flying in your hand like having the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no publication that offer you world within ten or fifteen tiny right but this book already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt which?

Johnny Harper:

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Melody Herrera:

Some people said that they feel bored when they reading a reserve. They are directly felt that when they get a half elements of the book. You can choose typically the book The Book of Flying to make your reading is interesting. Your own skill of reading proficiency is developing when you including reading. Try to choose simple book to make you enjoy to learn it and mingle the sensation about book and reading especially. It is to be first opinion for you to like to start a book and read it. Beside that the reserve The Book of Flying can to be your brand-new friend when you're feel alone and confuse with what must you're doing of these time.

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