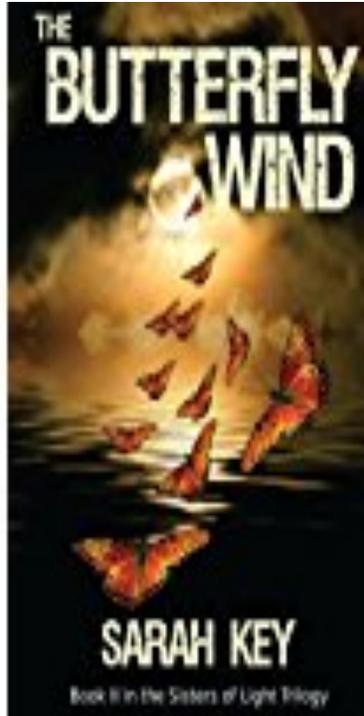


## "The Butterfly Wind" by Sarah Key



*Sarah Key enthralls her readers again in this sequel to *The Dandelion Clock*, Part II in the *Sisters of Light* saga, about the mysteries and magic of Africa.*

Time is running out for the hunchback enchantress, Siango. The village on the floodplain is in conflict and the failing chief needs her dark craft. The crazed poacher, Ikului, hunts elephants for their wisdom sticks. He offloads his cache in Lusaka, and he has more than ivory to trade when he procures unique ingredients for Siango's *muti* (potions).

A vicious attack on a game ranger brings life-long friends back to Chistlehurst Manor, the hotbed of secrets and crushing betrayals. Flash Peterson worries about her brother, Derrick, as the priest's son, has strayed from the righteous path. Caught up in a trans-national smuggling ring, Derrick crosses southern Africa on a soul-altering journey. His cousin, Honey Esack, is called upon to use her psychic abilities in an attempt to locate him.

From Cape Town, to the Victoria Falls, Lusaka and Western Zambia, disparate characters' fates are perilously entwined. In a storm, on a bridge spanning the mighty Zambezi, can the Sisters of Light once again conquer darkness? Can forgiveness be won in a pulse-racing faceoff with evil?

### **Where can I get a copy?**

Available now through Amazon. Search for *The Butterfly Wind* by Sarah Key.

# "The Butterfly Wind" by Sarah Key

## My Review: \*\*\*\*\*

Mysticism, magic, love, greed and dastardly deeds await you in *The Butterfly Wind*. When a ruthless poacher, stirred on by the village witch, seriously injures a ranger and captures his tracker, the girls are drawn into another adventure.

*The Butterfly Wind* is part two of the "Sisters of Light Trilogy" by Sarah Key, but you don't need to have read the first book, *The Dandelion Clock*, to enjoy it. Multiple story lines develop evenly and tie in beautifully to present the reader with an enthralling adventure that is hard to put down.

Key presents a captivating view of Africa today, with its blends of old and new, mystical and modern, city and country. She provides beautiful descriptions of the African landscape and wildlife and the lives of traditional tribes people (the book moves through many countries). Her characters are believable and writing style endearing. I thoroughly recommend *The Butterfly Wind* by Sarah Key. Five Stars!

Suitable reading for a mature audience – contains some violence, realistic situations, and supernatural themes which some may find distressing.

## A quick interview with the author:

*What inspired you to write "The Butterfly Wind"?*

This novel is the second book in my Sisters of Light Trilogy. *The Dandelion Clock* (Book 1) introduces four female protagonists with the intention of giving them three books in which to resolve their issues, and achieve personal growth and a greater degree of inner peace.

*The Butterfly Wind* deals with the backstory of Joanie Parks, a troubled young artist who has a fallout with Liam, a close family friend. Joanie and her lifelong pal, Petra Montgomery, return to Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, when Liam is shot. This was their childhood home and it evokes numerous painful memories for Joanie.

My mother was born in Lusaka and I visited relatives there frequently. The colonial life style as well as the magic and complexities of Africa such as traditional beliefs systems, the use of *muti* (potions) and witchcraft struck me as a strong set of themes to build into the plot .

*I really love reading about the strong but flawed female characters. Are they based on people you know?*

The sisters are a mishmash of people I know, bits of my younger self and figments of my imagination. The problems the young women struggle with and insecurities they face in early adulthood such as seeking forgiveness, finding self-acceptance, and managing an

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eating disorder, are explored. I have a Bachelor's Degree in psychology and have always been interested in the human mind and behaviour.

I was a student at Cape Town University in the late 1980s so some of the experiences, favourite haunts and political context that colour the novels are my memories. I did a stint overseas working as a nanny in London, as Joanie does. My personal history is woven into the trilogy but in terms of characterisation I didn't write about myself having done that to a certain extent in my first book.

*As someone who has never been to South Africa (or any part of Africa) I really love the descriptions of the landscape, wildlife and social/political structures.*

*What do you love most about the continent, and what concerns you most?*

The dramatic natural beauty of southern Africa is breath-taking and provides wonderful geographical locales to exploit in my books. Cape Town's Table Mountain and its rugged coastlines, Zimbabwe's Victoria Falls and fertile farmlands, and Zambia's floodplains and national parks are all places that inspire awe and wonder.

South Africa is often described as 'the Rainbow Nation' due to the fact that our people are diverse and come from varied ethnic groups. Once a democratic system came into existence in 1994, we were encouraged to unite. The richness of traditional cultures and ethnic practices (we have 11 official languages) make life interesting and colourful. We also enjoyed the privilege of being led by Nelson Mandela and 'Madiba Magic' and the spirit of *Ubuntu* - a quality that includes the essential human virtues; compassion and humanity - still abound in our country.

Diversity can also be divisive, though. In the past decade or so there has been an increase in xenophobia targeted at refugees from other southern African countries. It is critical that we, as Africans, become more inclusive and tolerant of others who are different.

On the negative side, poverty, alarming crime statistics, the HIV and AIDS pandemic, patriarchal systems such as polygamy, cultural practices like circumcision schools in rural areas are very concerning. Amazing Africa is a continent that is both breathtakingly beautiful and profoundly disturbing. It is an extraordinary, brutal, unique continent.

*Should I read "The Dandelion Clock" first?*

Yes, I think so. Although the stories stand alone in terms of tying up all aspects of the plot, the characters develop. The point is for the young women – aged between 19 and 22 – to come of age. In each following saga they grapple to make sense of previous happenings by discussing events after they have had an opportunity to digest and reflect on them.

The trilogy is set over the period of four and half months and is action-packed. Hopefully readers will keep coming back for more! I am currently nearing completion of the final book, *The Starlight Tide*.

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*What do you enjoy reading?*

I read widely and enjoy books that have good story lines usually involving a mystery or crime but that also have a lyrical component and use original figurative language. For a while I read a glut of Scandinavian crime writers and enjoyed the otherworldliness of their settings – snow and endless cups of coffee are foreign to this South African. Stieg Larson's trilogy was remarkable. I have read so many great books. Recently I have been reading local authors to get a sense of what we are producing at home.

## About the Author: Sarah Key



Once a high school English teacher, Sarah Key moved into Adult Education in which she holds a Masters Degree. She loved her time interacting with varied incredible youth who, emboldened, shared amazing stories, many of which challenged notions and shattered taboos surrounding sensitive cultural issues. She travelled South Africa leading a UNICEF sponsored programme aimed at reducing the ravages of HIV and AIDS.

In 2011 Sarah began her journey writing fiction and is published by Rebele Publishers (Detroit). She is currently completing the final book in The Sisters of Light trilogy.

She has always been fascinated by the aberrant human mind. She reads widely and loves cooking and her two crossbreed dogs. She is married and has two young daughters.

### Links:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100007317524893>
- Goodreads: [https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/15856708.Sarah\\_Key](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/15856708.Sarah_Key)

## "The Butterfly Wind" by Sarah Key

Also by the Author:

