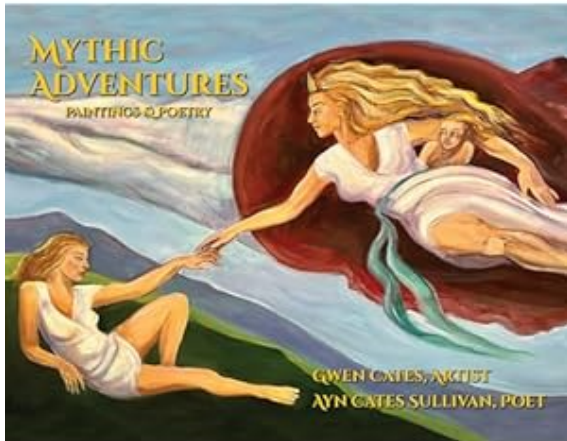




Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Mythic Adventures
Subtitle: Paintings & Poetry
Author: Ayn Cates Sullivan, Gwen Cates
Genre: Non-Fiction - Art/Photography



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

Development:	Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.
5	
Formatting:	Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.
5	
Marketability:	Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.
5	
Overall Opinion:	The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.
5	

Review:

Reviewed by Emily-Jane Hills Orford for Readers' Favorite

"An artist lives in the moment,/ Looks at all the colors in the sky,/ The patterns within each leaf." What is an artist? Someone who creates passionate images and structures for others to see and admire? An artist is definitely someone who creates, but it can be more than just visual creativity. In that definition, an artist can be a poet or a composer, for they create, too. In Gwen Cates and Ayn Cates Sullivan's book, *Mythic Adventures*, the fine arts of painting and poetry are brought together. A mother/ daughter team, one a painter, the other a poet, combine their efforts to create another work of art: "Then we both enter the wisdom field," for it is in the art of creativity that true wisdom is found and beauty, subtle and serene, can be shared.

Gwen Cates and Ayn Cates Sullivan's book, *Mythic Adventures: Paintings and Poetry*, is a treasure to be enjoyed frequently. The artist, Gwen Cates, has a passion for figure and landscape painting, and her divine images, especially the cover image, make her audience think of Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel. She also paints mythical creatures, bringing her imagination to life. Her daughter, Ayn Cates Sullivan, is a highly acclaimed author and poet, and her poetry complements her mother's artwork. Her poems use a variety of creative styles, from traditional stanzas to free verse. The two artists share family stories, making this presentation a visual memoir. This mother-daughter team is challenging others to share their artistic talents, for "Blessed are those who seek wholeness/ For they shall know Wisdom." Creativity is wisdom. This is a beautiful treasure of a book.