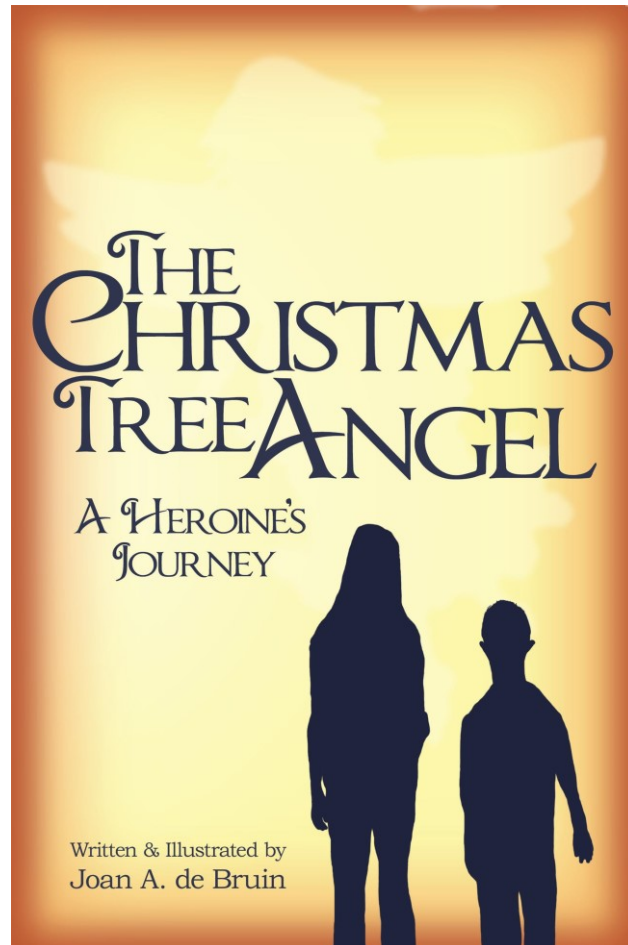


The Christmas Tree Angel

By

Joan A. de Bruin



An 11-year-old girl, grieving the death of her younger brother, escapes into a magical forest with her brother's ghost, a shape-shifter aunt, and a forest fairy trapped inside the body of a Christmas tree angel doll—a magical threesome tasked with saving the three worlds of Earth, Middle Kingdom and Heaven from the evil destruction of the witch Haggi and her two sisters.

The Christmas Tree Angel (Mediacs, 2015), a young adult fantasy novel written and illustrated by Joan A. De Bruin, was inspired by Joseph Campbell's exploration of mythology's patterns and archetypes, the stories of our collective human unconsciousness.

Available on Amazon.com in paperback and eBook formats.

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Joan A. de Bruin is an author and illustrator who has taught and lectured at colleges, universities and private schools throughout Southern California. A former director of the Los Angeles Craft & Folk Art Museum, Ms. de Bruin produced and directed folk arts educational conferences, festivals and art exhibitions in the Los Angeles Basin and arts education programs for students and teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District and Orange County Unified School District. She is also the founder of the Creative Art Bridges (artbridgesgallery.com) and a bi-lingual arts-integrated educational program for the San Gabriel Valley School District.

Ms. de Bruin's second work of fiction, *The Christmas Tree Angel* (Mediacs, 2015) was inspired by *The Hero's Journey*, Joseph Campbell's seminal exploration of the structure and characters of mythology—the patterns and archetypes which flow from our collective human unconscious and inform all story-telling.

Her previous work of fiction, *Yoda, The Daring, Dauntless, Darling Cat* (Mediacs, 2014), tells the story of a cat who is cured of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) by a neurofeedback therapist. It was inspired by a true story. *The Christmas Tree Angel* and *Yoda, the Daring, Dauntless, Darling Cat* are available at Amazon.com in both paperback and eBook format.

Upcoming books by Ms. de Bruin are *Rosebud, the Cat Who Lost her Nine Lives*, a fantasy about the ramifications of bullying, and *Clyde Upside-Down Penbourne* or *The Fall of a Hero*, a story about a boy and his heroes.

The author is also working in collaboration with Victoria Ibric, M.D., president of the Neurofeedback & NeuroRehab Institute in Pasadena, on a collection of client stories, *Singing in the Brain; Success Stories from the Private Files of a Neurofeedback Therapist*.

Ms. de Bruin's art has been exhibited at the Downey Museum of Art; Charles Bowers Museum of Art; California State University, Long Beach, and in the California Governor's offices. Her work is also held in private collections on the East and West Coast and in Beijing. She has also worked with New York artist Red Grooms on his Egyptian sculpto-pictorama, and on educational programs with the artists Christo, Luis Jimenez and David Hockney.

Ms. de Bruin lives in Alhambra, CA, and is available for media interviews and bookstore signings.

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For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

The Christmas Tree Angel, a young adult novel by author/illustrator Joan A. de Bruin, is published by Mediacs, a New York City publisher

An 11-year-old girl, grieving the death of her younger brother, escapes into a magical forest with her brother's ghost, a shape-shifter aunt, and a forest fairy trapped inside the body of a Christmas tree angel doll—a magical threesome tasked with saving the three worlds of Earth, Middle Kingdom and Heaven from the demonic destruction of the witch Haggi and her two evil sisters.

“The Christmas Tree Angel was inspired by Joseph Campbell’s exploration of mythological patterns and archetypes,” says author Joan A. de Bruin, “the stories which flow from our collective human unconsciousness.

“My intention was to write a sweet 1950s story about a little girl, her younger brother and their parents. But after watching Dr. Phil and Oprah sensitively help family members process the loss of a child and sibling, I decided to address the issue of grieving in a story about a magical journey of hope that restores a family’s harmony and peace.

“As I wrote Angel’s story, I selected those classic archetypes that best suited my 11-year-old heroine’s journey—magical objects, a ghost-brother, supernatural guides and forest fairies, a beautiful shape-shifter, animal-spirit companions, an ancient King of the Middle Kingdom and a coven of monstrous devil-witches.”

Ms. de Bruin’s novel was published late last year and is now available from Amazon.com in both paperback and eBook formats. More information about the author and her published work is available on [Joan's Amazon Author's Page](#). A Christmas Tree Angel has been reviewed favorably by educators, psychologists and general readers.

Joan A. de Bruin is an author and illustrator who has taught and lectured at colleges, universities and private schools throughout Southern California. A former director of the Los Angeles Craft & Folk Art Museum, Ms. de Bruin produced and directed folk arts educational conferences, festivals and art exhibitions in the Los Angeles Basin and arts education programs for students and teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District and Orange County Unified School District. She is also the founder of the Creative Art Bridges (artbridgesgallery.com) and a bi-lingual arts-integrated educational program for the San Gabriel Valley School District.

A film treatment based on A Christmas Tree Angel and written by Jim Bergman is now under consideration at a major Hollywood studio. Mr. Bergman is the president of [Mediacs](#), a New York City-based online publishing company, and the co-author of Graffiti Warriors: Bama and Pistol, a feature film now in pre-production at Benaroya Pictures. Mr. Bergman’s co-author, Gerard Brown III, wrote the iconic hip-hop movie, Juice.

Ms. de Bruin is available for media interviews and bookstore readings.