



THE MONARCHS OF WINGHAVEN

Young naturalist Sammie loves to do field research in a special stretch of wilderness in the suburbs—but now she must protect it. Science and heart combine in this engaging middle grade novel by Naila Moreira, due out May 14, 2024 from Walker Books US.

Illustrations by Naila Moreira

The Field is Sammie's place. It's where she goes to be alone and to study birds, insects, and flowers like the naturalist she wants to be one day. So when Bram, a new boy, turns up with his camera, Sammie worries he'll tease her and spoil her haven—after all, the other boys at school ruin everything. They make fun of Sammie for knowing too much and for being so serious.

But Bram is a scientist like Sammie, and together they observe tiny pond creatures, a pileated woodpecker with a red crest like a pirate's bandanna, and thriving monarch butterflies, whose habitats are becoming scarce. When Sammie and Bram discover bright red flagging tape encircling the trees, they learn that this special place they've named Winghaven is in danger—and it's going to take courage, and trust in each other, to save it.

This beautifully written story, full of details about the natural world, includes Sammie's field illustrations as well as real-life notes on keeping a nature journal, studying monarchs, and birdwatching.

ADVANCE PRAISE FOR THE MONARCHS OF WINGHAVEN

"I have to give Naila Moreira a huge high five for bringing her love of the natural world to life with this superb middle-grade novel. If it doesn't make readers want to go out and connect with the green and growing (and flying and burrowing) world right outside their doors, I will be surprised. It is a story about children trying to save natural spaces, written with a poet's ear. A lovely, compelling book." —**Jane Yolen**, award-winning author of *Owl Moon*, *You Nest Here with Me*, and *An Egret's Day*



"Nature journalists, sharpen your pencils. Follow Sammie and Bram as they trek into the wilderness of Winghaven and intrepidly model citizen science and activism for young readers. This meticulously researched eco-novel meets the moment and shows us how a connection to the natural world inspires connections between us all." —**Elaine Dimopoulos**, Author of *The Remarkable Rescue at Milkweed Meadow* and *Green Earth Book Award Winner Turn the Tide*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Naila Moreira has loved nature and writing since childhood. Her bird-and-nature watching and her work as a geologist have taken her to the coasts, forests and grasslands of New England, the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and Brazil. Through it all, she's kept her pen busy writing about her adventures. A former artist-in-residence at the Shoals Marine Laboratory in Maine, Naila Moreira now teaches at Smith College in Massachusetts, where she lives with her family.