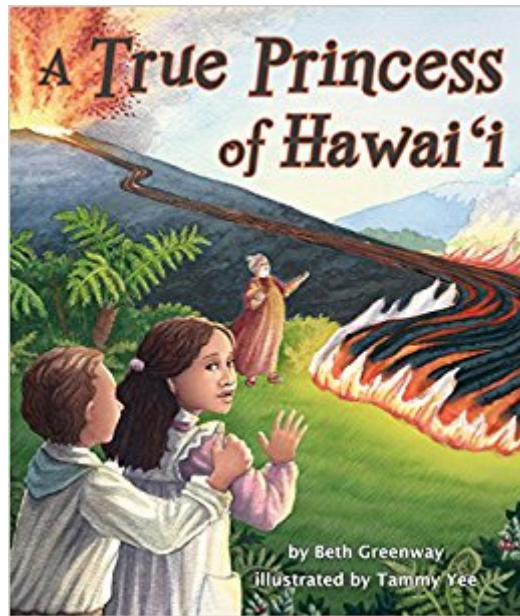




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# True Princess Of Hawai'i, A



## Synopsis

Nani has always dreamed of being a princess. When a real Hawaiian princess comes to her hometown of Hilo, Nani dresses in her best clothes. But as she watches Princess Luka, who has come to save the town from a volcanic lava flow, Nani learns that there is more to being a princess than fine clothes. This incredible story of kindness and generosity is based on the historical events of the 1880-1881 eruption of Mauna Loa on the Island of Hawai i and the real-life Princess Luka. This fictional story includes a 4-page For Creative Minds section in the back of the book and a 30-page cross-curricular Teaching Activity Guide online. A True Princess of Hawai i is vetted by experts and designed to encourage parental engagement. Its extensive back matter helps teachers with time-saving lesson ideas, provides extensions for science, math, and social studies units, and uses inquiry-based learning to help build critical thinking skills in young readers. The Spanish translation supports ELL and dual-language programs. The enhanced ebook reads aloud in both English and Spanish with word highlighting and audio speed control to promote oral language skills, fluency, pronunciation, text engagement, and reading comprehension. Keywords: based on a true story, character, Hawaii, natural disasters, volcanoes, earth layers, historical events, map, Pacific, plate tectonics Una verdadera Princesa de Hawaiki (Spanish version)

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 560 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

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Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.2 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,087,951 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #152 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Australia & Oceania #3144 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

"Years ago, I lived in a sleepy subdivision six miles above Hilo town on the island of Hawai'i. Many of the homes were built on the remnants of the 1881 Mauna Loa eruption featured in the book, "A True Princess of Hawai'i." Evidence of the eruption was everywhere. Lava rock walls bordered tiny gardens, and black pahoehoe lava peaked through the grass, ferns and 'Ōhi'a trees. Nearby was Kaumana Cave, part of a miles-long lava tube that was formed during the eruption. It was the perfect place to raise two young sons! Since then, I have been fascinated with the story of Princess Ruth's intervention to save Hilo from Pele's destruction. So it was a joy to pour through the Bishop Museum and Hawai'i State Archives for photos from the 1880s depicting the people, places and events in this story. I was inspired, too, by the paintings of Joseph Nawahi, and also the Volcano School paintings of late 19th century artists Charles Furneaux, D. Howard Hitchcock, Titian Ramsay and Jules Tavernier. I hope this book will inspire you to learn more about Hawai'i and its rich cultural and natural history." --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Beth Greenway lived in Hawai'i for many years and raised her three hula-dancing daughters there. She studied anthropology in college and started writing during her time in Hawai'i. Her books reflect her love of the islands. Beth is the author of *A Lei for Everyday*, *Waikiki Lullaby*, *Hawai'i's Foodtrucks on the Go*, *The Twelve Days of Hula*, and *Hawaiian Ocean Lullaby*. Beth now lives in Mississippi with her husband, cats, and the three family dogs: Hoku and Poli from Hawai'i and Donny from the mainland. Tammy Yee grew up in Honolulu, Hawaii, where she explored tide pools, swam in streams, and wrote and illustrated spooky stories. After college, she worked as a pediatric registered nurse. Having children rekindled her love for picture books, so in 1994 she exchanged her stethoscope for a paintbrush and has been illustrating ever since. Tammy has worked on more than thirty books including *The Tsunami Quilt: Grandfather's Story*, *Lullaby Moon*, and *Baby Honu's Incredible Journey*. Tammy lives in Oahu with her family, two rabbits, a chinchilla, a cockatiel, a cat and a burping bulldog named Roxy. In her spare time, she raises Monarch butterflies and creates paper projects for her origami website.

A true princess is known by her deeds, Nani is told in the story section of Beth Greenway's children's book, *A True Princess of Hawai'i*. ~ What ~ This thirty-two unnumbered page paperback with a thick folding jacket cover targets children ages five to eight years old who enjoy educational information about Hawaii's volcanoes. With a couple of scenes of fiery lava encroaching the town that may concern some young ones, it may be best read out loud to beginner readers due to some complicated wording. Based on historical events in

the late 1800s, this short story is about a young girl named Nani who wants to be a princess, especially when Princess Luka comes to Hawaii to save the town from an erupting volcano. As Luka asks a goddess who lives in the volcano to stop it, Nani learns how to be kind, generous, and thoughtful even though she may not dress like princess. The last four pages have more educational tools of learning activities for creative minds that involve information about the Pacific Rim of Fire, the factual story of Princess Luka and Mauna Loa, questions regarding facts and fiction, volcanic vocabulary matching, respecting Hawaii's natural resources, and a map of its many volcanoes.

~ Why ~ This book is a fictional tale of a historical princess, goddess named Pele, compassionate young girl, and a volcano. I like that the underlying lesson learned is about the girl who freely offers an old lady and horse her candy and the princess part of her clothing. I found the informational data at the back of the book for older readers the most interesting. Any child will enjoy looking at the colorful pictures with plenty of details while understanding mighty volcanoes.

~ Why Not ~ Those who do not like stories of potentially dangerous volcanoes may steer away from this educational book, but they may learn a thing or two. Others may not like the tale's inferences to a goddess or princess who tosses a red cloth into the lava, chants, and sprinkles a bottle on the fire. Some of the educational information may be above the suggest age level.

~ Who ~ Having lived in Hawaii for several years while raising her three daughters, Greenway has authored several books and now lives in Mississippi. Artist Yee is a native of Hawaii and has illustrated more than thirty books.

~ Wish ~ Not knowing Hawaiian folklore or history, I wish the story were told more accurately such as the mentioning that the town prayed instead of the volcano being stopped by Luka and Pele.

~ Want ~ If you are looking for a book about a Hawaiian volcano for preschool to early elementary aged children this may be a viable option, but the story is fictional.

o Thanks to Arbordale Publishing for this complimentary book that I am freely evaluating.

About: A True Princess of Hawaii is a children's fiction picture book written by Beth Greenway and illustrated by Tammy Yee. It was recently released for sale on 2/10/17 by Arbordale Publishing, 32 pages. This book is intended for kids ages 4-8. Arbordale Publishing's mission is to inspire the love of reading and improve young children's science and math skills through picture books. These books will captivate your kids' minds on your lap, at bedtime, or in the classroom.

My Experience: I started reading A True Princess of Hawaii on 2/25/17 as a story time for my 5 year-old son and we finished it on the same day. His dad read this story for him as a bedtime story a week ago as well. He likes this book a lot because it allows him to learn about volcanoes. In this book, readers will follow Nani, a little girl living in Hilo, who practices to be a

princess by making sure she looks/acts her best. She wakes up to a town warning bell alerting the townspeople that lava from Mauna Loa, the largest volcano in the world, has erupted and is flowing slowly toward town. Princess Luka of Hawaii was to come to calm down Pele, a goddess who lived inside the volcano. There were a lot of commotions as sailors prepared to welcome Princess Luka and horse carriage was prepared to take Princess Luka to the edge of the lava. Through the rush, Nani was stopped by a beggar where she takes the time to share what she has and kindly helps the horse who was unwilling to move. The moral of the story is generosity. Nani's generosity is being tested during the rush and she survived it. I didn't notice the moral of the story until I read the synopsis of this book. The generosity is weakly portrayed and the volcano seems to capture all of our attention. Despite the story of Nani being fiction, according to the facts at the end of the book, Princess Luka is in fact real and she was born in the 1800s. I really like the illustrations of the town and its people. I have lived in a village where I walked bare feet when I was younger. It brought back happy memories. I also like the story of the real princess at the end of the book because I have never heard of her before. The added reminders about visiting Hawaii at the end of the book is a plus.

Pro: Hawaii, Volcano, generosity, illustration  
 Con: moral of the story is a bit invisible  
 I rate it 4.5 stars!

\*\*\*Disclaimer: Many thanks to Arbordale Publishing for the opportunity to read and review. Please be assured that my opinions are honest.

xoxo, Jasmine

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