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Heart of Danger - Fleur Beale

Published by Random House, RRP \$19.99

This last book in the Juno of Taris trilogy is a gripping finale to the series set in a futuristic New Zealand. Juno has faced many challenges in her 14 years and is about to experience the most devastating of them all. When her young sister Hera's life is threatened, Juno's family return to the safety of the Fairlands community. Juno feels uncomfortable amongst some of the people who have the gift of 'seeing' future events. She is aware of her own mind powers but her abilities frighten her.

Malevolence swirls around her as she determines to protect Hera and keep her from harm. Danger and menace creep ever closer and Juno lives in constant fear for her sister. Her emotions are unsettled even more by attention from the handsome Ivor. Whom can she trust? Juno calls on the help of the group of friends she grew up with on Taris. Although they are separated by distance, the teenagers combine to give Juno the support and strength she needs.

A character list at the front of the book helps readers understand the background of the many people who play a part in the drama. Their individual stories are woven in at the end of each chapter with conversational updates. Juno is a brave young woman, unwavering in her fight for truth and freedom. Yet she is vulnerable in her inexperience of worldly ways. *Heart of Danger* unfolds her growth in maturity with honesty and powerful storytelling.

The first book in this visionary series, *Juno of Taris*, won the LIANZA Young Adult Award in 2009. *Fierce September*, the second book, won the Young Adult fiction category in the 2011 New Post Children's Book Awards, plus the 2011 LIANZA Young Adult Award.

Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.



www.fleurbeale.com

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