



## Silk Queen

*G.J. Walker-Smith*

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In 1983, life for Fiona Black was simple. She loved fashion, nights out at Bingo, and Duran Duran. Her days were spent working in her mother's haberdashery shop or hanging out with her two best friends.

She was also planning her wedding.

Unlike her idol Princess Di, Fiona hadn't landed a prince. Her fiancée Andrew wasn't perfect, but royalty was hard to come by in her small town in Manchester. Her princess aspirations were closeted, but perfection could always be found in the pages of the romance novels she loved so much.

What she didn't realise was that a real life fairy-tale was waiting for her in London, and it would be more epic than the twenty-five foot train on Princess Di's wedding dress.

All she had to do was find it.

## Silk Queen Details

Date : Published February 2017 by Amazon Digital Services

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Author : G.J. Walker-Smith

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## From Reader Review Silk Queen for online ebook

### Jess says

Silk Queen by G.J. Walker-Smith

5 Stars

Sitting in bed on a Sunday morning with a cup of joe while my husband watches the kids so I can finish this brilliant little novella is the BEST way to spend a Sunday.

I'm never surprised when Walker-Smith comes out with another hit but I'm thrilled all the same. I've missed her beautiful writing style, her knack for witty banter and her absolute love of her characters in the Decarie world.

Silk Queen just blew me away. Its like I just watched this whole book go down while perched on a ledge. I feel like I know the bright characters quite well and it all made for a wonderful story and beautiful flow. Gill, Charlene, Becky-such rich, colourful sub characters were such a perk! Fiona, your hopeless romantic side was so endearing and Jean-Luc...where have you been my whole life, Monsieur? Suave, smart, handsome and sexy-I need more! NOW!

Walker-Smith could write a children's book and I'd be on board. I'll never miss an opportunity to read anything she writes. She's a master at her craft and is so in tune with making us swoon. She provides me with all the feels and I cannot wait to see what journey Fi and JL go on. I know how their story ends, but I want to know where it begins.

Is it April, yet?

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### Melinda says

Silk Queen by GJ Walker-Smith

Aaaah! A new release from one of my favorite authors is always a good reason to stop whatever I'm doing and start reading! The fact that this story is about Fiona Decarie née Black and her journey to happiness (and my love, Jean-Luc) only fueled my desire to read it even more!

In this first installment of Silk Queen, we meet the young Fiona Black who is engaged to marry Andrew. She's always dreaming big and aiming high but those dreams won't be realized in her mothers haberdashery OR with her affianced.

I loved the friendships in this book and I loved getting to know Fiona beyond her snooty ways - she wasn't always the cow we knew and later loved in previous books! I freaking loved meeting a young Jean-Luc and can't wait to see how their love story unfolds in book two.

Another fabulous read that I just adored.

\*\*Reviewed by Melinda for Joandisalovebooks Blog.

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### **Ruth says**

I flipping love this series...I heart, heart, heart whole heart love it!!!  
So if I go to an adventure I will find a Decarie...is this what i learned from Silk Queen...Yes!!  
Thanks Gemma for showing me the way \*smile & wink\*\* Can't wait for part deux :)

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### **Becky Cox says**

Fiona intrigued me in previous books in this series and I was excited for her to get her own story. To fully appreciate the Silk Queen series you must read the Wishes Series first.

GJ Walker-Smith has a way of telling a story that just makes my heart happy. Her books are YA but I have shared them with people of all ages and everyone loves them. Silk Queen continues with her unique style that makes Walker-Smith stand out.

The story begins when Fiona is 20 years old and engaged. It is a fun recounting of her time planning her wedding, partying a bit with her friends and some general misbehaving. There is daily diary which was a fun new feature in this series.

Fiona is from a lower income area but dreams big! Her love of romance novels make her crave that knight in shining armor, sweep you off your feet kind of relationship.

Her best friends Charlene and Gill are hilarious and entertaining. I am a GJ fan for life and truly enjoyed this novella telling the first part of Fiona's story and can not wait for the next installment which I believe comes out sometime next month.

Thank you for sharing your stories once again GJ!

Reviewed by Becky for Jo&IsaLoveBooks

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### **Anna says**

*“Do you think the grass is greener on this side of the fence, Fiona?”  
“Yes,” I replied simply. My life was a slippery slope of disappointment and uncertainty, but I still believed in the fairy-tale ending. “One day I’m going to have the greenest grass of all.”*

G.J. Walker-Smith is back! Meet Fiona Black, a "hopeful romantic." She dreams of a fairy tale life, to meet a prince like her idol Princess Diana. She's in the middle of planning her wedding but her fiancée Andrew isn't the perfect prince she wanted.

*“Over time, I’d come to realise that no matter how hard I wished for it, life wasn’t going to imitate the pages of my romance novels.*

*Andrew wasn’t perfect, but he made me happy and that was enough. When the need for perfection hit me, I’d always have my books.”*

I love how much of a bookworm Fiona was, always carrying a book with her and wishing for a romantic experience just like the characters. She knows it's something Andrew can't give her so she reads about it (like how I read Charli's story :P).

It was nice to see where Fiona came from and her story leading up to when she finds her prince, young Jean-Luc (*swoon*). Also, her friends are funny and I hope in the future books we can see Charlene and Gill make an appearance! That would be fun and I want to know what they're up to. Did Charlene find her Simon Le Bon? Were they there to support Fiona when she was having a tough time accepting Charli when Adam first brought her home? Now, Jean-Luc Decarie. The charms run in the family, don't they?? Like father, like sons.

Young Fiona and Jean-Luc were adorable. It was too short and I wanted more!! Like always. I can't wait until part 2 of this story comes out to see how their love story unfolds. It's only a month and a half wait. I'll survive... won't I?

*“I bet you say that to all the girls,” I teased.*

*He gifted me a crooked grin. “I don’t believe I’ve ever said that to anyone.”*

*I put my hand to my heart in an exaggerated show of excitement. “You mean, I’m your first?”*

*“Yes, my darling,” he replied, hamming it up. “You are my first fried zucchini flower.”*

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Side note: If we're getting a book for Fiona and Jean-Luc, there must be one for Alex in the making right?  
**Right??**

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### **Rachel Raithby says**

#### **Another magical story ?**

Can't wait for the next one. Read it in a few hours. Needed the escape and GJ Walker-Smith didn't disappoint!

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### **Pamela Lilley says**

A must for all Wishes fans.

What a wonderful novella taking us back to 1983 and a teenage Fiona, before she met Jean-Luc, when she lived in Manchester, England and only dreamed of meeting her Prince Charming and moving to the big city. Life was simple, she had her fiancée Andrew and her best friends, Gill and Charlene, she was living the

dream, wasn't she? The novella follows Fiona before she leaves Manchester and gets the opportunity of a lifetime in London with the mysterious Jean-Luc. As usual, perfectly written, with some laugh out loud moments, I loved it. I can't wait for book 2 and what I'm imagining will be one hell of a love story.....

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### **buzy\_reading says**

Silk Queen was about Fiona. This was the beginning of book 7 in the Wishes series. You might remember Fiona as Adam's mother. This was Fiona before she became a mother and wife. Fiona was a young twenty year old who set her sights on living the fairy-tale dream of those posh women in her romance novels.

Fiona's mother owned a haberdashery shop where she helped out from time to time. Fiona admired and envied the posh women who lived a lavish style that she dreamed to acquire. Judith was a woman who educated Fiona in the lifestyle she desired. Judith sent Fiona to London on business where she met Jean-Luc.

Unfortunately, Fiona's young adult life was not very appealing. The woman she became with Jean-Luc was far more appealing. Had it not been for him Fiona would not have had the lifestyle she dreamed of. Fiona's character had no aspirations in life. She was inexperienced and naive. I found Fiona shallow in her quest to find diamonds, perfume, designer clothes, and drink expensive champagne.

I found Fiona more fascinating as a mother then as a young girl. This story held very little interest for me.

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### **Monique says**

If you are a fan of the Wishes Series, then you are in for a treat. Here we have Book One of Fiona and Jean-Luc's story. It's such a treasure. I love everything about this series and to see how Adam and Ry's parents meet is extraordinary.

We had snippets in the other books of Fiona's heritage, and now we get to see where she came from. And a trip to the city changes it all for her, all for the better. Who isn't intrigued by a man with a French accent!

And to know that the Decarie charm starts with Jean-Luc! I have always had a thing for him with his wit and allure. He may be a strong willed silver fox in the earlier books, but as a young man, he is turning on all his charm. And we love it!

Can't wait to read more of this remarkable couple. Merci GJ.

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### **Kindling Micky says**

This novella is for the fans and this fan girl is swooning over SILK QUEEN. I have a love affair with Jean-Luc Decarie that started in earnest in Star Promise. I've previously had an affection for Fiona but all that changed as I was taken back to the young adulthood of Fiona.

The era and setting of SILK QUEEN was a blast to read. I laughed so much at Fiona's crew of Gill and

Charlene. Her friends were loyal but somewhat stupid and Fiona was surprisingly mousy. The fashions, the relationships, Manchester in the UK made for a wonderful read; I devoured it not once, but twice.

When Jean-Luc enters Fiona's life, I double swooned. This man wasn't unreal, but I could feel Fiona's inner and outer reaction to him.....a French student in London, charming Fiona most naturally without any false pretence. I cannot wait to see where their story goes, I'm in suspense and dying for more.

This was the ultimate fun read, unusual and uplifting. I'm so glad GJ Walker-Smith chose to return to the youth of these two characters, I would never have thought about it otherwise but now I can't imagine not having this.

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### **Melissa Travis says**

I want more. This was the smallest tease ever!! I love the Wishes Series and was so excited for this one. Right when it gets good, it ends!!! Arrrggghhhh, I still love it.

If you've read this series you won't be disappointed. If you haven't read this series, download book 1 and get swept away to La La Land!!!

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### **Dilsh Wijesinghe says**

*“beignet de fleur de courgette – Fried Zucchini Flowers.... LOL!”*

*“Romance novels didn’t ruin me. They were my escape, and the biggest lesson I was ever likely to get on how it felt to fall fiercely and blindly in love.”*

### **Fascinating story. I always felt in love with books by G.J.Walker.**

Fiona was a girl who always want a ROYAL LIFE, like Princess Di'. She was going to marry "Andrew", who wasn't a PRINCE but a Bricklayer. Can he ever give the life what Fiona wants? No... He can't. Fiona's life had come to a turning point [better one] after her so called wedding blown-off. I admire the sweetness of this story and It felt so great. It was a Quick-Reading around 3 hrs. And when it ends, I was impatient. I want some more. Because the story tastes good and it wasn't enough. And I believe the story is actually begin in the end, when the Fiona Black met Jean-Luc Decarie.... I have no idea how this is connected to the wishes series until I saw the name of "Jean-Luc Decarie". And then, I knew whose love story was this. This is the LOVE STORY of ADAM DECARIE's parents. Over all, Story was perfect, interesting and enjoyable one. As well as so fun to read. Never get bored while reading. Looking forward to read sequel 'cuz I want to know every single detail about this sweet love story.

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### **Gill Melling says**

#### **Wonderful**

I have always wondered how Adam and Ryan's mum met Jean-Luc. On the surface, Fiona is every bit the

stuck up cow and no one would ever be good enough for her boys! Little hints had been dropped with regards to her roots, but how a girl from Manchester was going to meet a sexy French man was always the question. Well, now in book 1 we have the beginnings of an answer. Fiona, Charlene and Gill (she's a hoot!!) show us what growing up in Manchester in the 80's was like and how the unlikely pair meet. Another great read from one of my very favourite authors.

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### **Tamika says**

I am so glad we get to learn a little about Fiona's past! It was such a great read. I always wanted to know more about the Décarie Queen! Can't wait until the next one!!!

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### **Brenda says**

Fiona Black and her friends Charlotte and Gill loved their nights at Bingo, the Green Totty cider which always made them feel ill, and admiring the silks on the likes of Princess Di. Fiona knew she couldn't afford a wedding dress like her idol had worn but she was determined to have the best she and her mother could afford.

The haberdashery shop where she worked helping her mother was where Fiona spent most of her days – and the time with Andrew, her fiancée satisfied her, mostly. But was it enough? It was only a matter of weeks until the wedding – but the sparks of her romance novels were lacking in her own life...

*Silk Queen* by Aussie author G.J. Walker-Smith is a delightful novella - light-hearted and amusing, I enjoyed it very much. It's a coming of age for Fiona, a young and impressionable twenty year old who is naïve and innocent. Highly recommended.

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