

*Shalara's Secret Quest*

Christine McCarthy

Reviewed by: Marisa Chow

Star Teen Book Reviewer of **Be the Star You Are!** Charity

[www.bethestaryouare.org](http://www.bethestaryouare.org)

In the book *Shalara's Secret Quest* by Christine McCarthy, Shalara's only wish is to join the Sorcerer's Guild, but there's one problem: she's blind. While her twin, Talara, is allowed to fulfill her dream of joining the Warrior's Guild, Shalara is told to join the Musician's Guild instead because of her handicap. Intent on becoming a sorcerer, Shalara secretly begins to train in healing and magic while also practicing music—a fact known only to Talara and their friend, Tavin. Can Shalara convince her parents and everyone else that she is fully capable of becoming a sorcerer?

*Shalara's Secret Quest* was a nice, quick read focusing on a girl trying to overcome her handicap and achieve her dream of becoming a sorcerer. I liked how both Shalara and Talara grow in this story and eventually prove those who don't believe she can become a sorcerer wrong. For children with handicaps this would be an inspiring book to read. Young girls would probably like this story as well since both girls are twelve. This book was an easy book to read and carries an inspirational theme.