

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

---

Faculty Publications, UNL Libraries

Libraries at University of Nebraska-Lincoln

---

3-2003

## Review of *In the Shadow of the Pali: A Story of the Hawaiian Leper Colony* by Lisa Cindrich; Putnam, 2002

Sue Ann Gardner

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, [sgardner2@unl.edu](mailto:sgardner2@unl.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libraryscience>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

Gardner, Sue Ann, "Review of *In the Shadow of the Pali: A Story of the Hawaiian Leper Colony* by Lisa Cindrich; Putnam, 2002" (2003). *Faculty Publications, UNL Libraries*. 193.

<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libraryscience/193>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Libraries at University of Nebraska-Lincoln at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Publications, UNL Libraries by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Damien of Belgium, who sacrificed his own health to improve the conditions of the exiles. This latest volume is written from the perspective of a 12-year-old Hawaiian girl, Liliha, who contracted the disease from her cruel grandmother, and the novel is set in the years before Father Damien arrived at the colony in 1873. Before his arrival, there was anarchy, little food for the inhabitants, no health care, and no shelter. In this depiction, little detail is spared of the horrors of leprosy and the terror of lawlessness, though it shows that even a resourceful child was able to rise above many of the tremendous hardships.

This is a first novel. The book is well written and engaging and would be of interest to young readers. While the story is unambiguously moralistic, it is light-handed and somewhat unconventional. That Liliha must grapple with serious ethical issues as well as fend for herself in every way may resonate with modern teens who, increasingly, have to deal with hardships of their own, including the fear of violence and split families.

— Sue Ann Gardner  
*Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln*

**12-1-0139**

Cindrich, Lisa. *In the Shadow of the Pali: A Story of the Hawaiian Leper Colony*. New York: Putnam, 2002. 246 pp. ISBN 0-399-23855-7, \$18.99.

The leper colony on the Hawaiian island of Molokai has been covered in a number of books over the years, both fiction and nonfiction, many focusing on the efforts of Father