

Mermaid: A Twist on the Classic Tale

By Carolyn Turgeon



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Two sheltered princesses, one wounded warrior; who will live happily ever after?

Princess Margrethe has been hidden away while her kingdom is at war. One gloomy, windswept morning as she stands in a convent garden overlooking the icy sea, she witnesses a miracle: a glittering mermaid emerging from the waves, a nearly drowned man in her arms. By the time Margrethe reaches the shore, the mermaid has disappeared into the sea. As Margrethe nurses the handsome stranger back to health, she learns that not only is he a prince, he is also the son of her father's greatest rival. Sure that the mermaid brought this man to her for a reason, Margrethe devises a plan to bring peace to her kingdom.

Meanwhile, the mermaid princess Lenia longs to return to the human man she carried to safety. She is willing to trade her home, her voice, and even her health for legs and the chance to win his heart....

A surprising take on the classic tale, *Mermaid* is the story of two women with everything to lose. Beautifully written and compulsively readable, it will make you think twice about the fairytale you heard as a child, keeping you in suspense until the very last page.



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Mermaid: A Twist on the Classic Tale By Carolyn Turgeon Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In Turgeon's surprisingly dark retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's The Little Mermaid, two women pine for the affections of a prince: mermaid Lenia, who pulls Prince Christopher from the sea, and Margrethe, the princess of the rival kingdom, who witnesses the rescue from the convent where she hides from the war raging between their two kingdoms. Lenia, who falls instantly in love with the prince, sacrifices the sea, her voice, and her health to be with him on dry land. Meanwhile, Margrethe believes that marrying the prince would unite their kingdoms, but when she arrives to arrange it, she finds him already enraptured with Lenia. While he remains unaware that the girl he loves is also the mermaid who saved him, Margrethe recognizes her rival immediately and puts into motion a plan to send the ailing mermaid back to the sea and save her own ravaged kingdom. Turgeon has done a superb job of creating compelling characters and conflict from a story already familiar to readers. (Mar.)

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From **Booklist**

Turgeon refashions Hans Christian Andersen?s beloved classic, The Little Mermaid, into something altogether darker and more foreboding. When two women from two decidedly different worlds fall for the same prince, what else can ensue but heartache and misery? After rescuing a human from the sea, mermaid Princess Lenia falls hard for Prince Christopher, even agreeing to give up her beautiful voice and to endure the constant pain caused by her new legs in order to pursue him on dry land. Meanwhile, Princess Margrethe has also set her sights on the handsome prince in hopes of uniting their two warring kingdoms. With Lenia?s life on the line and war looming on the horizon, the prince?s choice is bound to have catastrophic consequences. More robust than a fractured fairy tale, Turgeon?s brooding retelling gives voice to both women, fleshing out an essentially tragic tale of destiny and desire. Not exactly a cozy bedtime story, but guaranteed to keep you guessing who?if anyone?will live happily ever after. --Margaret Flanagan

Review

- "Absorbing, poignant, and heartbreaking...Readers who love fairy tale retellings will find this fresh take difficult to put down."—Library Journal
- "More robust than a fractured fairy tale, Turgeon's brooding retelling gives voice to both women, fleshing out an essentially tragic tale of destiny and desire...Guaranteed to keep you guessing who if anyone will live happily ever after."--Booklist
- "Turgeon has done a superb job of creating compelling characters and conflict from a story already familiar to readers."—Publishers Weekly
- "A gothic love triangle with two equally matched heroines. This isn't kid's stuff."—Kirkus Reviews
- "Vividly imagined and skillfully told, Mermaid is a dark tale that shimmers with light."--Cathy Marie Buchanan, New York Times bestselling author of The Day the Falls Stood Still
- "There is a part of every reader that longs to return to the days of reading fairy tales and myths, when imagination had no limits and stories were spellbinding. Carolyn Turgeon's *Mermaid* evokes just that feeling. She is one of my new favorite writers."--Jo-Ann Mapson, author of *Solomon's Oak* and the *Bad Girl Creek* trilogy

"This *Mermaid* is resplendent with shimmering details, the dark and thrilling story behind that comforting childhood memory. At once fresh and familiar, heartbreaking and full of hope, this dark retelling of Hans Christian Anderson's *The Little Mermaid* is like a gorgeous dream remembered."—Jeanine Cummins, bestselling author of *A Rip in Heaven* and *The Outside Boy*

"As moody and atmospheric as a gothic novel, *Mermaid* is a heartfelt portrait of young love and all its sweet complications. Sweeping and lush, an inspired and imaginative reimagining of my favorite fairy tale."—Timothy Schaffert, author of *The Coffins of Little Hope*

"Turgeon's ability to breathe new life into the old bones of a beloved story we all think we know is unparalleled."—Anton Strout, author of the Simon Canderous series

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jonathan Head:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be update about what going on or data even knowledge to make these keep up with the era which is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe can update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know what kind you should start with. This Mermaid: A Twist on the Classic Tale is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Audrey Rivas:

Do you have something that you like such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, short story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not hoping Mermaid: A Twist on the Classic Tale that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied through reading this book. Reading practice all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world considerably better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading routine only for the geeky person but for all of you who wants to possibly be success person. So, for every you who want to start looking at as your good habit, you can pick Mermaid: A Twist on the Classic Tale become your current starter.

Heather Delph:

Are you kind of active person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your time to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short space of time to read it because this time you only find book that need more time to be read. Mermaid: A Twist on the Classic Tale can be your answer given it can be read by you actually who have those short extra time problems.

Marc Dean:

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