



The Summer of Chasing Mermaids

By Sarah Ockler

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The Summer of Chasing Mermaids By Sarah Ockler

From the bestselling author of *Twenty Boy Summer*, a talented singer loses her ability to speak after a tragic accident, leading her to a postcard-perfect seaside town to find romance.

The youngest of six talented sisters, Elyse d'Abreau was destined for stardom—until a boating accident took everything from her. Now, the most beautiful singer in Tobago *can't* sing. She can't even speak.

Seeking quiet solitude, Elyse accepts a friend's invitation to Atargatis Cove. Named for the mythical first mermaid, the Oregon seaside town is everything Elyse's home in the Caribbean isn't: an ocean too cold for swimming, parties too tame for singing, and people too polite to pry—except for one.

Christian Kane is a notorious playboy—insolent, arrogant, and completely charming. He's also the only person in Atargatis Cove who doesn't treat Elyse like a glass statue. He challenges her to express herself, and he admires the way she treats his younger brother, Sebastian, who believes Elyse is the legendary mermaid come to life.

When Christian needs a first mate for the Cove's high-stakes Pirate Regatta, Elyse reluctantly stows her fear of the sea and climbs aboard. The ocean isn't the only thing making waves, though—swept up in Christian's seductive tide and entranced by the Cove's charms, Elyse begins to wonder if a life of solitude isn't what she needs. But changing course again means facing her past. It means finding her inner voice. And scariest of all, it means opening her heart to a boy who's best known for breaking them...

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Ockler's breezy, seaside romance offers a modern spin on the classic tale of "The Little Mermaid." After a boating accident steals her voice, Elyse d'Abreau leaves Tobago and her superstar dreams to seek solitude with friends in Atargatis Cove, OR. Unable to confront the fact that she will never sing again, Elyse cuts herself off from family and friends, until playboy Christian Kane recruits her to serve as first mate in a boating race to save the Cove from being ruined by developers. The race forces Elyse to confront her fear of the sea and the legendary mermaid, Atargatis, who helps her rediscover her inner power. Despite being unable to speak, Elyse's lyrical and authentic voice shines through. Teens will relate to her struggle to find her place in a complicated world and applaud her efforts to fight back against the heartless powerbrokers threatening to destroy the Cove. The story unfolds at a leisurely pace, bogged down at times by ambiguous references to Elyse's past that take too long to reach a satisfying conclusion. Ockler builds a sizzling romance between Christian and Elyse, and both characters demonstrate a mature attitude toward sex. Elyse also develops a tender friendship with Christian's mermaid-obsessed little brother, and readers will root for him as he tries to overcome gender barriers. The thread of the mythical mermaid lends an atmospheric tone, though ultimately falls short, and the open-ended resolution may leave some readers scratching their heads. VERDICT An enjoyable additional purchase, great for beach reading.—Kimberly Ventrella, Southwest Oklahoma City Library

Review

"...this fun romance develops into a truly thoughtful and inspiring read... excellent for fans of Sarah Dessen and John Green." (*Children's Literature*)

"A sweet summer romance [that] sings with mermaid lore and characters you wish you could spend your summer with. This look at finding your voice is the perfect poolside read." (*Justine Magazine*)

"Elyse's journey and struggles to assimilate her disability--portrayed with compassion and insight--are compelling and original. A beach read with depth that will keep readers engaged." (*Kirkus Reviews*)

"Ockler dives beneath the surface in writing about her characters' emotions and family relationships, and writes sensuously about love and desire. This is a good choice for older teens looking for a well-written romance." (*VOYA Magazine*)

"Ockler's poetic writing captivates from the outset ("My first breath outside my mother's body was salt water; the Caribbean Sea lay claim to my soul the moment it took hers"), and Elyse's backstory--including the mystery of exactly how she lost her voice--is inventive and well-drawn." (*Publishers Weekly*)

"Lyrical and authentic... Ockler's breezy, seaside romance offers a modern spin on the classic tale of 'The Little Mermaid.'" (*School Library Journal*)

"The successful formula of summer romance while overcoming personal hardship makes this a good choice for summer vacations and any other time one needs easy comfort-food reading." (*Booklist*)

"With parallels to 'The Little Mermaid,' this moving contemporary novel is a must-have for any trip to the beach." (*Bookish*)

"...another fantastic summer story by Twenty Boy Summer's Sarah Ockler... The Summer of Chasing Mermaids will totally capture your summer spirit this June." (*Bustle*)

About the Author

Sarah Ockler is the bestselling author of *#scandal*, *The Book of Broken Hearts*, *Bittersweet*, *Fixing Delilah*, and *Twenty Boy Summer*. Her books have received numerous accolades, including ALA's Best Fiction for Young Adults, *Girls' Life* Top 100 Must Reads, Indie Next List, and nominations for YALSA Teens' Top Ten, and NPR's Top 100 Teen Books. She lives in Colorado with her husband, Alex. Visit her at SarahOckler.com and find her on Twitter and Facebook.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Adrian Kao:

Here thing why this The Summer of Chasing Mermaids are different and reputable to be yours. First of all reading a book is good but it really depends in the content from it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. The Summer of Chasing Mermaids giving you information deeper since different ways, you can find any reserve out there but there is no e-book that similar with The Summer of Chasing Mermaids. It gives you thrill reading through journey, its open up your eyes about the thing in which happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. You can easily bring everywhere like in park your car, café, or even in your means home by train. If you are having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of The Summer of Chasing Mermaids in e-book can be your substitute.

Leonard Jones:

The feeling that you get from The Summer of Chasing Mermaids will be the more deep you searching the information that hide inside the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to understand but The Summer of Chasing Mermaids giving you thrill feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in a number of way that can be understood through anyone who read the idea because the author of this book is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having that The Summer of Chasing Mermaids instantly.

Carla Helton:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the book untitled The Summer of Chasing Mermaids can be very good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

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