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The Little Mermaid



Synopsis

The Little Mermaid is Hans Christian Andersen's most celebrated tale and is beautifully adapted here as a graphic novel by the Eisner award nominated duo Metaphrog (Sandra Marrs and John Chalmers), winners of the Sunday Herald Scottish Culture Awards Best Visual Artist 2016, and authors of the acclaimed The Red Shoes and Other Tales. The Little Mermaid lives deep under the ocean and longs to see the world above. When at last she is allowed to rise to the surface at age fifteen, she falls in love with a young prince. In order to become a human and to be with him, she makes a dangerous pact with the Sea Witch.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

"Andersen fans will be mesmerized, and newcomers will want to see what they've been missing." - STARRED REVIEW - SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL "[A] graceful, lyrical adaptation...an eye-catching addition to graphic novel and fairy tale collections." -

BOOKLIST "Sumptuous illustrations depict a radiant world under the water and the shimmering land that the mermaid longs for; intense close-ups of the expressive, doe-eyed mermaid infuse this lovely retelling with an exquisite melancholy. This is a lush, haunting work for those who prefer their fairy tales with dark undercurrents." - SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL "The lushest thing they've done... reinvents the tale as a swimmy, gorgeous version of beauty and despair." - THE SUNDAY

HERALD "An arresting graphic novel in which the mermaid's painful transformation and fate are preserved, but handled with a gentle, numinous assurance that won't overwhelm younger readers. Roaring Twenties styling, jewel-bright turquoise waters and a beguiling sense of wonder permeate this radiant little book." THE GUARDIAN "A stunning adaptation ... magical illustration using gorgeous colours and a depth of textures and print usually seen in children's books...80 pages of maintaining this standard of artwork would have been no mean feat!...You've not fully experienced the story of the Little Mermaid until you've read the Metaphrog version." Broken Frontier "A haunting story, magical and tinged with sadness, beautifully illustrated and lovingly retold in graphic novel form by the ever-brilliant Metaphrog." BRYAN AND MARY TALBOT, Costa Book Award winners "A glorious retelling of one my favourite stories. Beautiful pictures, and the text is true to Hans Christian Andersen's original tale. Well done, Metaphrog!" Best-selling author VIVIAN FRENCH "With exquisite illustrations and vibrant storytelling, The Little Mermaid is a fairy tale worth believing in." David Gallaher, The Only Living Boy "The team create entire underwater kingdoms and earthly palaces of luminous beauty, dramatizing each beat of the mermaid's tale... an experience that will profoundly affect young readers and stay with them." COMICON.COM "Some stories will always need to be told and retold, they speak of something fundamentally human that we connect with, and each time, although we know the story, it is in the telling that we find the real pleasure, and in Metaphrog's Little Mermaid we have a glorious, beautiful, touching, warm, sad and yet inspiring version. I envy the younger reader for whom this will be their first experience of this much-loved tale." FORBIDDEN PLANET "Metaphrog's retelling is not an idealized version in the style of the Disney film. Instead, it balances perfectly the beautiful and haunting qualities of the original tale to create a truly enchanting read." SCOTTISH BOOK TRUST, Teens' Book of the Month "This graphic novel is not only beautifully illustrated, with each page full of unique, colorful and stunning art, it also stays true to Andersen's original story." GOODREADS

Metaphrog are Franco-Scottish duo Sandra Marrs and John Chalmers, winners of the Sunday Herald Scottish Culture Awards 2016 for Best Visual Artist. They are the authors of the critically-acclaimed Louis series of graphic novels (Eisner Award nominees for "Best Coloring", "Best Graphic Album New", "Best Title for a Younger Audience"), and were Highly Commended for the Scottish Children's Book Awards. Their graphic novel fairy tale collection, The Red Shoes and Other Tales, was published by Papercutz to international acclaim and their adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's The Little Mermaid will follow in April 2017. They are Patrons of Reading

at Northfield Academy in Aberdeen 2013-17 (the first graphic novelists to fill such a role) and were Writers in Residence at the Edinburgh International Book Festival 2015.

The Little Mermaid, by Danish author Hans Christian Andersen, has always been one of my favorite stories. Not the Disney version, which had its own charm to be sure, but the original and much sadder fairytale of love, loss, and sacrifice. There are many beautiful books with the Andersen story intact and really I've rarely come across a bad version. This Metaphrog retelling comes with very stylized full color illustrations. Clean line and chalk-like drawings are overlaid with patterns and textures to create a very modern look. The styling, however, is very reminiscent of 'hippie' art of the 1970s. The colors are rich and deep and the cover is very indicative of what you will find inside. This is suitable for reading to children of all ages. If I have one nitpick, it is that the mermaid's inner dialogue about not being able to verbally express herself felt unnecessary and overly simplistic. Instead of text, I would have preferred the images to showcase the emotions/feelings - then the Little Mermaid wouldn't have sounded like she has the depth of a toddler who doesn't have the language to express that they want peanut butter rather than tuna sandwiches. That aside, this is a lovely addition to a fairy tale collection and I appreciate the original story being left intact here with the sad ending. Reviewed from an advance reader copy provided by the publisher.

'The Little Mermaid' by Metaphrog duo Sandra Marrs and John Chalmers is not an adaptation of the Disney movie, but it is a pretty faithful adaptation of the original story by Hans Christian Andersen. A mermaid lives with her older sisters under the sea. They all dream of the day when they are 15 and they can make one visit to the surface. They all report back on what they see: icebergs, sunsets and other wonders. The youngest sees a prince and ends up saving him from a shipwreck. She wants to become human and makes a bargain with the sea witch, but since this is Hans Christian Andersen, you must know that it won't end happily. The artwork is beautiful. The water has light shimmering in it. The prince's ship sails on a golden sea, then glows white as lightning highlights it during the storm. There is detail in all the ink work. It does the story justice in all its beauty and sadness. I received a review copy of this graphic novel from Papercutz and NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you for allowing me to review this graphic novel.

The Little Mermaid by Metaphrog is a stand-alone graphic novel for kids of all ages. Based off of Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale of a young mermaid who dreams of living high above the seas, onto dry land. This graphic novel is not only beautifully illustrated, with each page full of

unique, colorful and stunning art, it also stays true to Andersen's original story. If you are looking for the Disney version with the happy ending, this is not it. Beautiful, full of detail, and an easy to follow graphic novel that I highly recommend!*I received this book from NetGalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review*

Unique artwork with vibrant colors in a graphic novel retelling of the classic story, The Little Mermaid. This version is closer to the original story with its non-Disney ending. For adaptation fans and those who like a bit of whimsical artistry. Net Galley Feedback

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