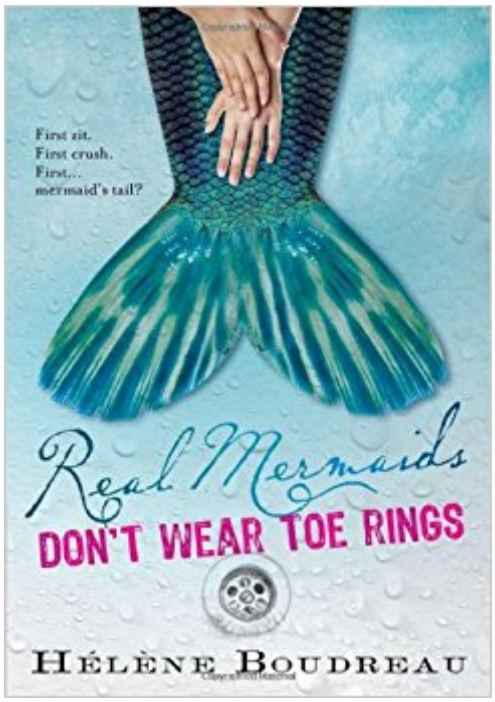
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Real Mermaids Don't Wear Toe Rings



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Synopsis

Freak of nature takes on a whole new meaning... If she hadn't been so clueless, she might have seen it coming. But really, who expects to get into a relaxing bathtub after a stressful day of shopping for tankinis and come out with scales and a tail? Most. Embarrassing. Moment. Ever. Jade soon discovers she inherited her mermaid tendencies from her mom. But if Mom was a mermaid, how did she drown? Jade is determined to find out. So how does a plus-size, aqua-phobic mer-girl go about doing that exactly? And how will Jade ever be able to explain her secret to her best friend, Cori, and to her crush, Luke? This summer is about to get a lot more interesting... "Absolutely fresh and sweet, a quirky coming of age story." -The YA-5

Book Information

Series: Real Mermaids

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Sourcebooks Jabberwocky; 1 edition (December 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1402244126

ISBN-13: 978-1402244124

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 138 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #162,712 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Paranormal & Urban > Mermaids #378 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Being a Teen #693 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Sword & Sorcery

Customer Reviews

Grade 5Ã¢â ¬â œ8Ã¢â ¬â •Jade, 13, has enough problems. Her mom drowned a year ago, she's overweight, and her crush can't even remember her name. Then, she gets her period for the first time while trying on bathing suits for her best friend's pool party. At home, a relaxing bath in Epsom salts turns into a nightmare. She nods off in the tub and, upon waking, finds that her legs have been replaced by a scaly mermaid's tail. Her father doesn't seem surprised, only sad, and he reveals that she inherited this trait from her mother, a "Pesco-sapien," part fish, part human. The combination of salt water and the onset of puberty apparently triggered the change. Luckily Jade is able to return to her human state after some time out of the water. During a walk by the pier, she discovers that her

mother is actually still alive and trapped in the lake by some not-so-nice mer-people. This leads to a frenetic, sometimes confusing, attempt to save her. Jade's father, who never seems to be able to get to his cell phone, is well-meaning but bumbling, leaving Jade mostly responsible for her mother's rescue. Flat characters and cheesy moments require the suspension of disbelief. Readers looking for an entertaining mermaid tale will be better served by Tera Lynn Child's Forgive My Fins (HarperCollins, 2010).Ã¢â ¬â •Mandy Lawrence, Fowler Middle School, Frisco, TX (c) Copyright 2011. Ã Â Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

JadeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s fourteenth birthday means more than just an extra candle: a soak in a warm Epsom-salted tub of water exposes a mermaidÃ¢â ¬â„¢s taleÃ¢â ¬â •attached to her! She also discovers that her mother wasnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t drowned after all but is a mermaid who is being held hostage by rogue merfolk intent on discovering the secret of changing into human form. Can Jade get the right kind of help to bring her mom back home? What begins as a coming-of-age story becomes a mildly suspenseful chase-and-rescue mission. There are subplots involving classic adolescent moments like JadeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s first serious crush, a semi-serious third-wheel threat to a long-standing best friendship, and a single dad coping with his daughterÃ¢â ¬â„¢s first period. The first-person narrative brings JadeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s experiences up close and personal for readers who know what itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s like to have secrets and feel like a fish out of water. A quick read, at times a little flat, with touches of humor; give this to girls not quite ready for snogging. Grades 6-9. --Cindy Welch

I loved this book. I have re-read this book four times already. I recommend this book to middle schoolers and or mermaid lovers and believers for it has a tight storyline that younger kids wouldn't have the mind to understand. I think that this book is so intriguing and you literally just want to read for hours on. In fact, I couldn't take my eyes off this book for my whole road trip a few months ago. I also enjoy that at the end of the book there is a huge twist. But if you had to ask me what my favorite part of this book was, I have to say that it is REALLY cool and fun to have easy recipes at the end of each book. After you finish reading this book, I suggest you read the next book in the series. (There are four books in the series) I also love in this book that the main character Jade is a little curvy because most books, the heroine is fit and perfect like Barbie. But this book shows that no matter what shape or form, you can save the day. If you are scrolling through the reviews, I suggest that you read this book if you haven't already. Just saying, I love this book and would re

buy it any time. I definitely recommend this book. Read, enjoy, and have a mer-tacular adventure as you dive into this book that make you feel real.- Kate age 10

Due to copy and paste, formatting has been lost.The first book in the Real Mermaids trilogy surprised me. I was expecting a fluffy read about mermaids, which I got. But I didn't expect to actually be enchanted by it. You should know by now that I just adore any type of mythology-- any at all. So I was happy to read a little bit on mermaid lore (the webbed ones), but I was a tad disappointed with the actual mermaid content of the novel.To me, it was too...I don't know, shallow? That's not really the word that I'm looking for, but it'll do for now. As I was saying, the underwater stuff, the mermaid change and stuff (and stuff, and stuff, ugh)? Well, I wish that it had been better done. In moments like those, I felt like I wasn't really a part of the book. And I can't help but wish that the lore part of the book had been more focused on.Not only that, but the villians were super juvenile. But I can totally forgive that, because I realize that we're dealing with a younger age group here. But still, I like my villians bad. And I like my parent's realistic. The first time that Jade becomes a mermaid, her dad helps her out of the tub...but what self-respecting dad wouldn't screech when his daughter becomes a mermaid?? Especially when she changes back and she's naked...um. I may have missed something, but ick. I took that the wrong way-- maybe she has a blanket? I'll just assume that I missed something. (Oh, dear God in heaven please.)Now that I've gotten that off my chest, this book was really cute. Jade was a terrific character, which lots of younger girls will definitely identify with, because she's experiencing every thing for the first time too-- girly things, growing a mermaid's tail (if you are, totally tell me, I'll be there for you!), and of course, her first crush. Which was adorable.Jade's crush on Luke is very real and true to life, as is her lack of self confidence and her friend problems. All of that is something I'm sure that we've all experienced at one time, and I'm sure that you'll find something to love about Real Mermaids Don't Wear Toe Rings.

These books are very quick reading for the average adult, because they are geared more for junior high/early high school aged readers. They are very reminiscent of Beverly Cleary in that the characters are very easily relatable, even with being 1/2 mermaid. The adolescent issues are very real. I found the entire series to be sweet and poignant while having some surprises and twists and turns along the way. I'd highly recommend them to anyone who loves mermaids and wants a bit of fun summer reading.

Mermaids are one of the few beloved fantasy creatures for the girls. My kid certainly was, for a while. You would think there is a mountain of mermaid materials, but not really. Thank you, writer, for this book. And my kid enjoyed it too.

I just finished reading this book today, and overall, it was a good story. I loved Jade's humerous sarcasm and her unfaltering determination to save her mother. My only complaint was the way everything happened so "fast". One minute, we would quickly brush over her mother's death, and the next, her mother was being attacked by a freshwater mermaid gang that is never really described in depth. An important character would be introduced, then abandoned by the next page. Being a fantasy fan, I couldn't resist rushing to finish this book, but this one setback really annoyed me throughout the tale.

This book is a fun read, but I think with some depth to it too. I ordinarily don't read fantasy, but this sounded cute, so I gave it a try and I'm glad I did.The mermaid bit is the obvious fantasy, but I think Jade's mother turning out to have been kidnapped by mermaids rather than having drowned, as Jade and her father thought, addresses the kind of real-life fantasy most of us have experienced of wishing we could have back someone beloved who we lost.The story moves along at a quick pace. There are some lose threads in the plot, but there's a sequel where I'm sure they'll be picked up.

I love this book so much I couldn't stop reading it. I read it in 2 days straight. Literally. I was even reading it in the middle of the night! I loved all the characters including Jade's rival. She added some spice to this amazing story! (The good kind ;)) To be honest I don't know who to recommend this to except to girls like me: Eleven years old (about to turn twelve), already started their monthly, and hopelessly romantic. I'm a little dorky too but oh well! So anyways, I loved this book and I'm looking forward to reading the other books on the market!

I really enjoyed this book mainly because mermaid books are normally about someone who is already a mer or finding out your friend or crush is a mer but this book is about what it would be like if you just had a tail out of the blue add in a bit of awkward humour and you have yourself a great read

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