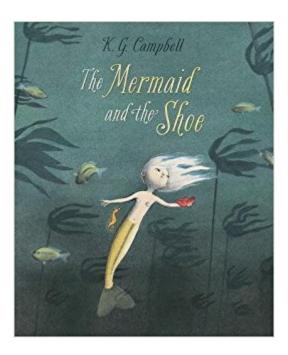


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The Mermaid And The Shoe





Synopsis

Each of King Neptune's 50 mermaid daughters boasts a special talent, except for little Minnow, who seems to be good only at asking questions. When she finds a strange object, Minnow follows her questions to a wondrous place and finds answers, including the answer to the most important question of all: Who am I? A gorgeously illustrated story about finding one's purpose.

Customer Reviews

Gr $1\tilde{A}$ ¢å \neg å ev $4\tilde{A}$ ¢å \neg å •Created with watercolor and pencil crayon, this tale is unique in its style. One of Neptune's 50 daughters, Minnow doesn't think she is remarkable. In fact, she thinks she's truly useless, with no talent of her own. Her only companion is a little orange sea horse. Minnow is a curious mermaid, always asking questions that no one seems to understand. One day she finds a dainty little red shoe. It is only when she sets out on an adventure to learn about the purpose of shoes that she truly realizes that she is an explorer. The mermaid finds answers to her questions and rushes home to tell everyone of all that she has learned. While there is no sea witch to be found in this work that is reminiscent of Hans Christian Andersen's The Little Mermaid, Minnow's narcissistic sister Calypso is quite mean. Campbell's illustrations employ ample blues and grays to portray deep waters of the sea. The mermaids are all identical, with fair skin, white hair, and thin bodies. It is only when Minnow catches a glimpse of the human world that the pages become vibrant with hues of red, yellow, and orange. This book is suitable for independent reading as well as a read-aloud. Minnow's tale will remind readers that it is okay to ask questions and seek answers, to stand out and be unique. \tilde{A} ¢å \neg å •H. Islam, Brooklyn Public Library

... the artwork is also full of subtle humor---Campbell definitively answers the question of what a shrugging octopus looks like---and the story solidly delivers its message about the value of inquisitiveness, adventurousness, and storytelling. $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} - \hat{a}\phi$ Publishers WeeklyWith a clever storyline and enchanting pictures, this is an elegant choice for 4- to 9-year-olds who want a break from dinosaurs. $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} - \hat{a}\phi$ The Wall Street Journal

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