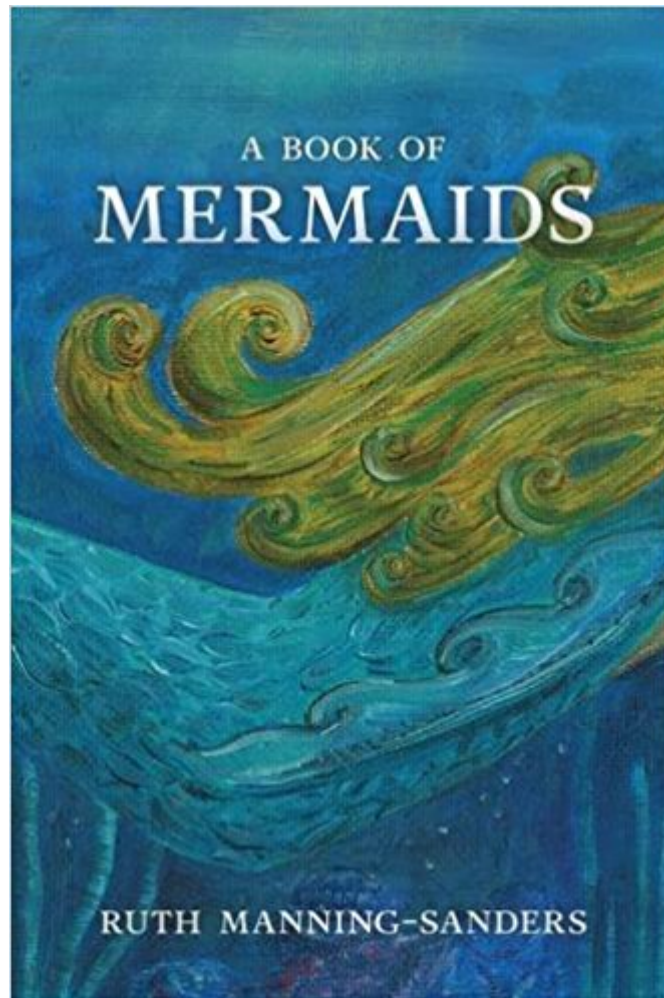




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A Book Of Mermaids



Synopsis

Stories about mermaids come from almost every country by the sea—from Iceland to India; America to Arabia. Most mermaids have flowing golden hair, long graceful tails, and a beauty that lures men to the bottom of the sea. Sven, in the Danish story, “Sven and Lilli,” followed Lilli to her ocean home, where “they live happily. And there, in their domed house under the sea, so people say, they are living still.” But not all mermaids are beautiful, and some are unchancy creatures indeed. There is a mermaid in the Irish tale, “The Magic Lake,” who has “pig’s eyes and wolf’s teeth, and a mouth grinning from ear to ear.” And the beautiful mermaid Groach, in the Breton story, “The Groach of the Isle of Lok,” casts a spell over handsome young men, marries them, and then turns them into rainbow-colored fish. In these sixteen stories Ruth Manning-Sanders captures the quicksilver personalities of mermaids and mermen as she tells of their marvelous schemes and adventures. Schedule

Book Information

Paperback: 166 pages

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Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,093,437 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Mermaids

Age Range: 5 - 12 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 6

Customer Reviews

From shores as separate as Ireland and India and America comes one of the freshest collections in this well-established series, with a succession of droll, tender, arresting images:

great-grandmother riding the wave in her rocking chair in "Sven and Lilli"

I've been looking for these stories since I read them as a child at the library. They are not your

typical mermaid stories. So happy I found them again.

From head to tail this book is a lovely collection of mermaid stories that are interesting and captivating. My boys and I loved reading the stories together. They challenge your previous 'knowledge' of mermaids and each story is unique. The new cover is beautiful too!

My daughter loved this book. Great price and fast shipping.

I love mermaids and have loved this book since childhood!

I loved this book as a child but wish this version had the original illustrations with it. I would have given it a 5!

One of the most memorable and most charming things about this book were the gorgeous illustrations that went with the stories. Well, when this edition arrived, there were no illustrations. Just tiny sketches under each title page, none of them from the original book. I requested a return. I'll wait until I can find an original copy.

This is an anthology of 16 fairy tales from around the world that have been collected and retold by Ruth Manning-Sanders. It is one in a long series of such anthologies by the author. (If you can't get this one, a couple of the of tales from this book are recollected in "A Choice of Magic" by Manning-Sanders.) In the foreword, the author writes: "[I]t may surprise you to learn that though many mermaids have tails and no legs, some have legs and no tail, and some have both legs and tails. ... However, there do seem to be more mermaids with tails than without them, and there are plenty of tailed mermaids (and mermen) swimming about in these stories, which, as we should expect, come mostly from countries with a long seaboard." Of the character of mermaids, Manning-Sanders adds: "And what are they like, these mermen and mermaids, not in looks but in character? On the whole, they are unchancy creatures, particularly the mermaids. You can't trust a mermaid even as far as you can see her."Table of contentsForeword1. Sven and Lilli (Denmark)2. The Lost Prince (Iceland)3. The Three Mermaids (Italy)4. Rake Up! (Denmark)5. The Kingdom of Ocean (India)6. Margrette (Breton)7. Long John and the Mermaid (America)8. The Magical Tune (Ireland)9. The Comb, the Flute and the Spinning Wheel (the north of Germany)10. The Magic Lake (Ireland)11. The Untidy Mermaid (Scotland)12. The Groach of the Isle of Lok (Breton)13. The Geese

and the Golden Chain (Portugal)14. Merman Rosmer (Scotland)15. The Lake Maiden (Wales)16.
The Four Abdallahs (Arabia)

In third grade I was obsessed with mythology and folklore so, naturally, I gravitated toward this title. The book was old and neglected in my grade school library but something spoke to me in its dated English and gorgeous but sparse illustrations. These tales are the real item; not a bit of harsh family life, violence or unrequited love has been left out. I remember being very impressed with its reality. It's a shame that another printing isn't available; I don't think I'll be able to scrape together almost \$200.00 to purchase the copy this search found. If you are fortunate enough to find one, snap it up to keep with your Sandman and Brothers Grimm.

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