

ARE YOU AS STRONG AS THE SEA SO WILD?

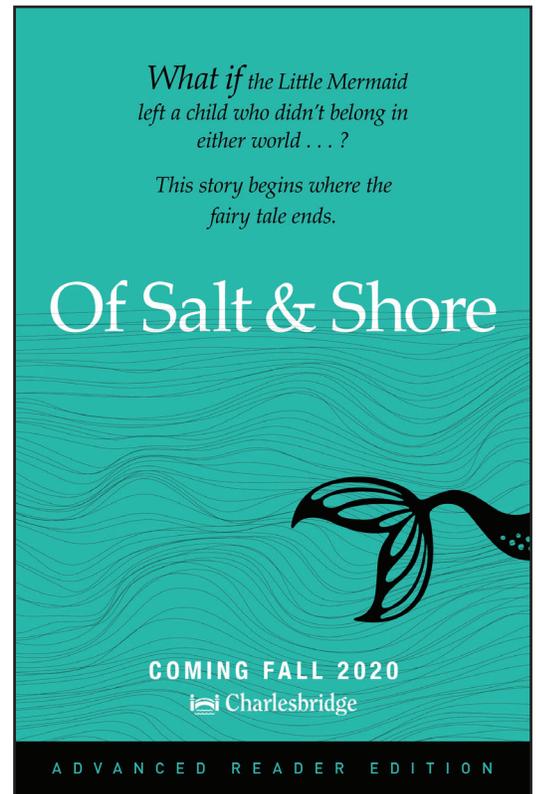
About the Book

Lampie has always been a responsible kid. With a vanished mother, an alcoholic father, and a lighthouse to run, she has no choice. But when the lighthouse lamp goes out and a ship runs aground, her life is turned upside down. Packed off in disgrace to the mysterious Admiral's ominously nicknamed Black House to work off the debt from the shipwreck, Lampie opens a forbidden door to a world of magic. The stories of the Black House monster conceal a marvelous secret.

This spellbinding what-if sequel to *The Little Mermaid* immerses us in Lampie's struggle to define herself between her father's grim reality and a far stranger world. Pirates, mermaids, carnival curiosities, and all the mysteries of the ocean come to light in one girl's fight for friendship, freedom, and the right to be different.

"What a treasure trove of a book."—Hilary McKay, author of *The Skylarks' War*

"A dark, quirky fairy tale of a story—beautifully written and beautifully translated, too."—Lucy Strange, author of *Our Castle by the Sea*



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About the Author



Annet Schaap is one of the Netherlands' best-loved illustrators. Her debut novel, *Lampje*, won four prizes, including the best Dutch children's book of the year for 2018. It has been translated into English as *Lampie and the Children of the Sea* in the UK and now *Of Salt & Shore* in the United States. She lives in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

About Family and Secrets

- What do we know about Lampie's father in part one? Does Lampie's treatment improve when she's taken away from him?
- What do you think of the way Miss Amalia handles Lampie's separation from her father? Would you do anything differently in her shoes?
- Lampie hears her mother's voice in her head and occasionally holds dialogues with her. Do you think this is her imagination or a kind of magical connection?
- Compare and contrast Lampie's parents with Edward's parents. Do you think any of them could be said to be "good parents"? What does it mean to be a good parent?
- Why is Edward's existence such a carefully guarded secret?
- Both Edward and Lampie are named after their parents. Do you know someone who carries a parent's or grandparent's name? What do you think of the practice of naming children after a relative?
- What do we learn about Lampie's mother in the last part of the book? Why do you think this information is withheld until then?

About Work

- Lampie is given difficult responsibilities at both the lighthouse and the Black House. Do you think it's right to give a kid her age that level of responsibility? Why or why not? What is an appropriate level of responsibility for a twelve-year-old?
- What metaphor does Lampie's father use when thinking about who will be held liable for the shipwreck? Why do you think he uses this metaphor instead of thinking about the matter in plain words?
- How do wealth and poverty influence the events of this book?
- Why does Edward engage in negative self-talk while he works on his big project?

About Magic

- Our first encounter with magic in this world is the sea-people who lift Lampie out of the ocean when she falls on her way back to the lighthouse. What tone does this set for the rest of the book?
- How does Lampie's relationship to literacy change throughout the book? How is it influenced by the attitudes of the people around her?
- What role does music play in this story?
- What do we learn in the first monster-narrated chapter?
- Why does Lampie choose to spend her quarter on a visit to the "monsters and freaks" tent at the carnival?
- How does the mermaid at the carnival speak?
- What does Lampie see on the Rock?