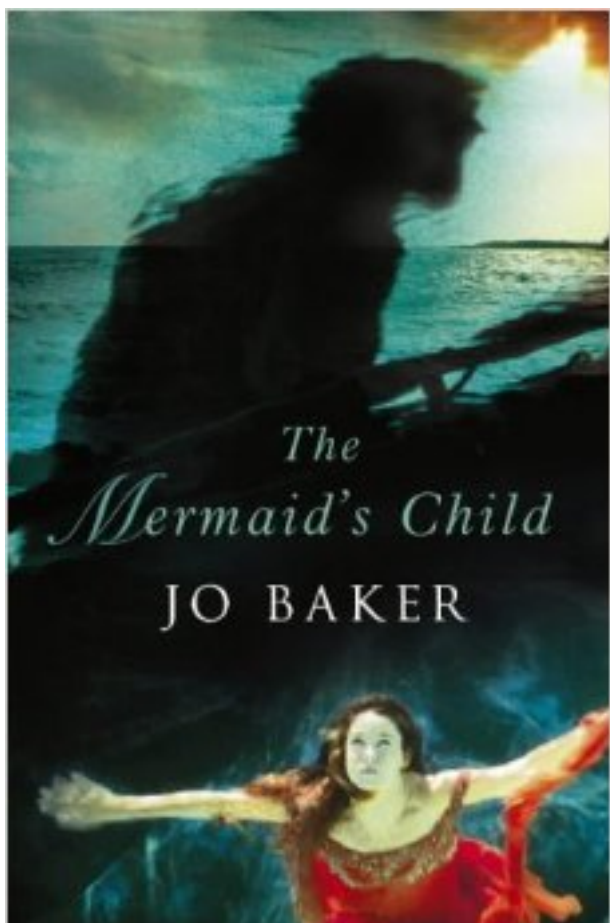

Jo Baker

The Mermaid's Child



Title: The Mermaid's Child

Author: Jo Baker

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Description

Growing up motherless in an isolated community, Malin Reed has always been made to feel different from everybody else. The fact that, according to Malin's father, the absent mother was actually a mermaid only makes matters worse. When Malin's father dies, leaving behind nothing but his stories, Malin's choice at last becomes clear: stay, and never feel at home, or leave and go in search of mermaids and the fantastical inheritance that, up to now, has always seemed completely out of reach. Apprenticed to a series of strange and wonderful characters, Malin embarks on a picaresque journey that crosses oceans and continents - from the high seas to desert plains, from a time of slavery to life in a circus - until it finally leads to a discovery that is the very last thing Malin would ever have expected- Beautifully written and hauntingly strange, set in an unspecified historical past, *The Mermaid's Child* is a remarkable piece of storytelling, weaving together the fantastical and the inevitable through the power of the imagination.

Insightful reviews

Suzanne: I kept expecting this book to begin or become whatever it was meant to be. I thought that it would involve some measure of fantasy or fable that would provide the reader with a transformative experience. Instead this is a really dark book that begins with a grim outlook and continues in the same unyielding vein. The protagonist goes on a journey, from and to where we don't really know. When we don't really know either. She learns to read and write while on this journey but mostly she is tortured, literally, and treated like a slave. After reading, I was left wondering, "why?" I received this from Netgalley.

Kirsten Jensen: Jo Baker, the bestselling author of *Longbourn*, has definitely wrote a sour tale of a young girls journey to find her mermaid mother, enthralling readers with raw characters and non-stop danger. Not to mention that until about half way into the novel the reader still is not exactly told if Malin or a boy or girl – thus making this crazy novel more absurd. Sadly, this book was not what I expected. I found it has hard to get in to, and that it lacked excitement.

Lindley: This book was quite different from what I expected, based on the description. When it's described as a fairy tale for adults, think more Grimm than Disney. Malin's journey is a hard one, full of both pain and pleasure, love and cruelty. Jo Baker does not shy away from the most difficult parts of the journey, and at times I found it a bit hard to read. Although many parts of this book are beautifully written, I had this feeling as though there was a wall between Malin and the reader--it was hard for me to ever connect with the character. For such a driven character, it seemed like events happened to her for the majority of the story, rather than her having a real sense of agency. Malin developed more control over her life toward the end of the story, but it ended quite abruptly.

Taylor Caitlin: I got a loose reproduction of this ebook from NetGalley in alternate for a decent review. Basically, *The Mermaid's baby* is the tale of Malin Reed, a bad and rarely informed woman who embarks on a trip to discover her mother, a intended mermaid. the attractive prose stored me turning the pages and the desire that the mermaid storyline might ultimately unfold. to not damage the ending, yet i used to be upset during this regard and that i imagine different

delusion readers can also be left dissatisfied. Readers who like darkish ancient dramas, with additional emphasis at the darkish and gloomy may perhaps like this book, it simply wasn't for me.

Joan: A coming-of-age tale of sorts, Malin is a woman of indeterminate age who opens this narrative with the sorrowful assertion that she doesn't consider ever having a mother. yet myth surrounds her mother, interesting Malin from the instant her father unearths the cause of her absence. Her mom couldn't stay, he informed the child; she needed to return to her personal people. She used to be a mermaid. For unrevealed purposes [other than the acknowledged truth of getting no mother], Malin is an outcast within the city she calls domestic and soon after her father's dying her grandmother sends her away to paintings on the public house. taking into consideration this as a brand new existence beginning earlier than her, in her naïveté she believes she has "prospects." yet what follows is a chain of difficult-to-believe, heartrending "adventures" for her, a chain of trips that finally carry her again to the place she began. regardless of all of the brutality she's endured, does this suggest she's ultimately chanced on her heart's desire? "The Mermaid's Child" comprises a few beautifully-written prose, yet there are not any solutions approximately Malin's mom and readers who wade through the sturm und drang of Malin's harsh lifestyles usually are disenchanting via this relentlessly grim, dark, and harsh narrative with its non-ending ending.

Laurie: i actually loved this book, and i am shocked it's not convallescing ratings. it is the first publication I learn by way of Baker, and so might be it did not dwell as much as a few of her others? i'll try out extra of her books myself simply because i feel her writing is fantastic. i actually cared concerning the major personality and acquired sucked into her story. Baker paints a very good photo with words. what is attention-grabbing approximately this e-book is that the most personality just isn't that brilliant or difficult within the beginning, and not often a hero of any kind. She grows via her trip via whole accident. The finishing is beautiful.

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