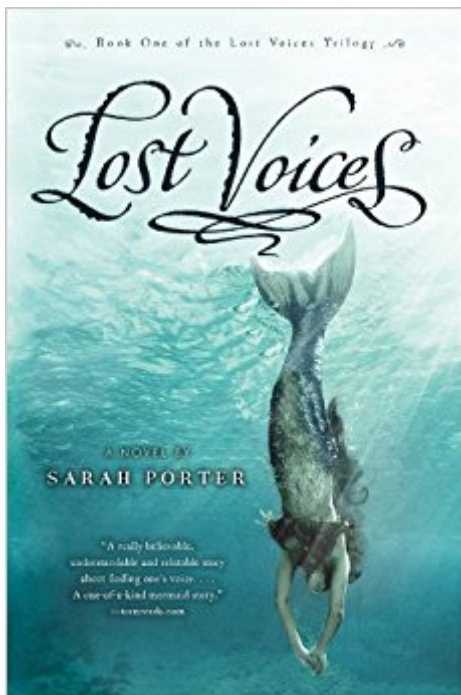


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# Lost Voices (The Lost Voices Trilogy)



## Synopsis

Fourteen-year-old Luce reaches the depths of despair when she is assaulted and left on the cliffs outside of her grim, gray Alaskan fishing village. She expects to die when she tumbles into the icy waves below, but instead undergoes an astonishing transformation and becomes a mermaid. A tribe of mermaids finds Luce and welcomes her in— all of them, like her, lost girls who surrendered their humanity in the darkest moments of their lives. Luce is thrilled with her new life until she discovers the catch: the mermaids feel an uncontrollable desire to drown seafarers, using their enchanted voices to lure ships into the rocks. Will Luce be pressured into committing mass murder?

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 880 (What's this?)

Series: The Lost Voices Trilogy (Book 1)

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ISBN-13: 978-0547482538

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Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 147 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #539,098 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in Books > Teens >

Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Alternative Family #221 in Books >

Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Physical & Emotional Abuse #269

in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Bullying

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Fourteen-year-old Luce has had a tough life, but she reaches the depths of despair when she is assaulted and left on the cliffs outside of a grim, gray Alaskan fishing village. She expects to die when she tumbles into the icy waves below, but instead undergoes an astonishing transformation and becomes a mermaid. A tribe of mermaids finds Luce and welcomes her in— all of them, like her, lost girls who surrendered their humanity in the darkest moments of their lives. Luce is thrilled with her new life until she discovers the catch: the mermaids feel an uncontrollable desire to

drown seafarers, using their enchanted voices to lure ships into the rocks. Luce possesses an extraordinary singing talent, which makes her important to the tribe—she may even have a shot at becoming their queen. However her struggle to retain her humanity puts her at odds with her new friends. Will Luce be pressured into committing mass murder? The first book in a trilogy, *Lost Voices* is a captivating and wildly original tale about finding a voice, the healing power of friendship, and the strength it takes to forgive.

"A haunting debut. . . . Porter's writing is expressive and graceful. . . . a captivatingly different story." —Booklist "A beautifully written and heartbreaking story about a lost soul struggling to forgive the people she loved who wronged her, and ultimately to forgive herself." —Jennifer Echols, author of *Going Too Far* "It might be shelved as a fantasy, but *Lost Voices* is full of gripping, harsh realism. Without resorting to stereotypes or tired high school plots, it deals with the complications of friendship and peer pressure. And at its core, it's nothing more than a really believable, understandable and relatable story about finding one's voice. Its relevance to real life and its references to the real issues that create lost girls --- abuse, neglect, rape, bad parenting and more--make it a one-of-a-kind mermaid story. For that reason, it will appeal to paranormal, fantasy and realism fans alike." --teenreads.com "This is a dark and compelling take on a world usually depicted as more lighthearted. . . . Porter nonetheless carefully doles out enough possibilities to keep the overall tone hopeful, and given the already numerous perky mermaids, these gritty, wounded souls are a creative and welcome addition to the field." --Bulletin "The beautifully crafted first book of the *Lost Voices* trilogy is told in such a rich, despairing aqua tinged tone, it leaves you desperate for more." --Fantasy Book Review

After reading Tera Lynn Childs' mermaid series, I was expecting this to be a light, fun story about cute mermaids. Couldn't have been more wrong! Don't be fooled by the beautiful cover on this book. It is dark and sometimes disturbing. This is not a mermaid story for the sensitive readers out there. Sarah Porter took her mermaids to a whole new level in *Lost Voices*. Luce is only fourteen, but she has had a tough life for a girl so young. Her mom died when she was little and her father was a nomad and a thief, dragging Luce from ratty motel to ratty motel, barely letting her stay long enough to enroll in school. She didn't mind it, though. Then her father decides to move to Alaska so Luce can have a normal life and be closer to his brother. When Luce's dad's boat is lost at sea while fishing, she is left to her uncle's protection. Her uncle is a mean, abusive alcoholic, but when he goes too far and actually tries to rape her, something happens to Luce. She changes. She becomes

a mermaid. Mermaids are young women who are given a second chance after being hurt and tortured by human beings. Every girl mermaid Luce meets has her own horror story of how she got there- burned alive, thrown from a moving vehicle, sold by her parents, etc. Most of the mermaids are between 5 and 16, but there are baby mermaids- babies hurt by humans who become mermaids and are stuck as babies, never growing old, unable to defend themselves. The other mermaids call them larvae and know there is no way to help them. They will never grow up and can therefore never survive in the cruel ocean. Most of them are eaten by orcas, but there are always more to replace them. The larvae are the hardest thing for Luce to accept... until she learns what the purpose of the mermaids is. Mermaids sink ships. Their song is so beautiful it draws ships into the rocks and breaks them apart. People on board are so enchanted, they leap into the water to be closer to the mermaids, jumping to their deaths. Luce struggles with this, even though she is the second best singer and is instantly propelled to Catarina's, the Queen of the tribe, second in command. As a large group of mermaids come and then one of the mermaids convinces Catarina to turn a girl on a yacht, things begin to change. Catarina loses her authority to control the mermaids and only take down small ships in places where the humans won't become suspicious. Soon Anais, the girl from the yacht, is getting girls to take down boats to get jewelry and clothes and useless electronics. They are endangering the mermaid way of life, but can Luce and Catarina save the tribe before they call too much attention to themselves? This is an incredibly dark, and sometimes morbid (especially with the ever-present larvae) story. It is not for delicate readers who can't handle dark stories. The most interesting aspect of this story for me was the fact that, although vengeful, the mermaids were given a second chance at life. For Luce, it was the first time she had real friends and the first time since her father's death she felt loved. It is a beautiful idea that after so much pain, they could find peace somewhere. I also like the idea that while the other mermaids took down ships to get vengeance on evil humans, Luce couldn't bring herself to do it- she remembered that while some humans like her uncle were evil, others were good to her. It is a nice twist to the story that gives hope for people and mermaids alike. Because this story is full of some very serious and violent situations, it might be best left for an older student. I would recommend grades 10-12 unless you know a younger student who is comfortable with darker material. The book might be best used in conjunction with non-fiction material and discussions about the situations in the story that lead to the girls changing into mermaids. The book will be a great catalyst for some serious discussions on vengeance and violence.

I just finished reading this series and it was spectacular! Once you start reading Lost Voices you

won't want to stop til you read all three books! The story of Luce and her sister mermaids is like nothing you have ever read before. I was in the edge of my seat throughout the whole reading and now I want more. It was simply the best ever! What a ride!!!! So many emotions.....I highly recommend this to anyone of any age, not just teens. My friends and I are long past our teen years and we love Luce and her story.JMHO. //( \*\_\*)\\

Too teeny boppy. Then again it is a YA series. Just a bunch of avoidable teenage drama in a book. None of the arguments or things that happened made much sense and you really don't care much for any of the characters. You just feel sorry for the circumstances- for example several of the girls get raped\molested which I feel like weren't written realistically at all. I guess what I'm sayin is that there wasn't a ton of redeeming qualities here.

I honestly got this book just to get a book. I started reading and I could not stop reading it! Each chapter is filled with new words leading to new events. It's like the more you read this book the more you can't stop reading!!!! It is almost like a psychological thriller... It goes from dreadful events to something beautiful and back. This girl Luce (Lucette), I can relate to her not in the same way but the book txt lets me transfer myself into her and it is almost like I am in the book. Luce is just an innocent girl living the life of an uninnocent person. She deserves better and the more you read the more you just feel sorry for her and then happy for her when she gets out of the dreadful events! To make it easy for you all, the book has a great hook to it and (believe me) won't let you stop reading it! This book I especially recommend for the those who want/like to read thriller and sad-to-happy books and for those that just want to read a good book! Like me, and boy am I enjoying this! So I recommend you buy this book and then tell me if my advice helped you! Peace(:

If you love stories about mermaids, "Lost Voices" is one for you to read and enjoy as much as I did. In this story, mermaids aren't all beauty and kindness. They have a dark side too, but it is done in such a manner that you can still enjoy this "tail" and root for the finny folk. The story's mermaids were all once human, and after each suffers a traumatic human life, they are transformed into beautiful creatures of the sea. But even after such a dramatic transformation, they still exhibit remnants of their former human selves. This leads to divergent ideas and actions within the mermaid tribe. You'll enjoy "Lost Voices." Luce is one such mermaid, and her new life in the ocean often clashes with her old human existence. She must deal with her own troubling thoughts as well as those of her new "family."

Lost Voices is an excellent fantasy YA novel that centers around a fourteen year old girl named Luce. She becomes transformed into a mermaid after enduring some terrible events, and is introduced to a tribe of mermaids who live off the coast of Alaska. Each girl has a haunting past that led her to become a mermaid. The mermaids hold dark and deadly secrets that Luce is soon swept into despite her various misgivings. She encounters deep internal struggles that lead her to doubt her very existence, and to fight the rules and way of life that the mermaids have always followed. Lost Voices is a truly captivating novel that I could not put down from the first page! It is creative yet believable, and puts an interesting twist on the typical mermaid folklore. I definitely recommend this book, and can't wait for the next book in the trilogy to be released!

Great book

Interesting read...definitely not for anyone under age 16! That is mainly due to the events that are described that happen to the main character. Slow moving at first. Would have liked more detail about the area they swim. Overall, ok. Probably wouldn't read it again.

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