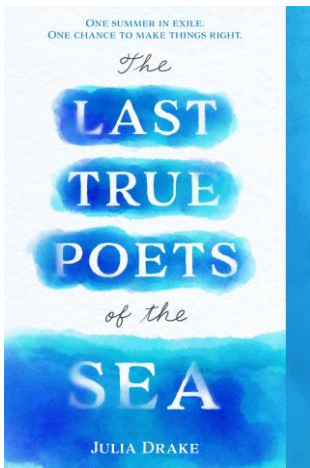


Book Resume: The Last True Poets of the Sea



***The Last True Poets of the Sea* by Julia Drake**

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2019

ISBN: 9780759554993 (paperback), 9781368048088 (hardcover)

*Age Range: 14 & up (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: Gr 8 Up (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Fans of *Far from the Tree*, *We Are Okay* and *Emergency Contact* will love this epic, utterly unforgettable contemporary novel about a lost shipwreck, a missing piece of family history, and weathering the storms of life.

The Larkin family isn't just lucky—they *persevere*. At least that's what Violet and her younger brother, Sam, were always told. When the *Lyrice* sank off the coast of Maine, their great-great-great-grandmother didn't drown like the rest of the passengers. No, Fidelia swam to shore, fell in love, and founded Lyrice, Maine, the town Violet and Sam returned to every summer. But wrecks seem to run in the family: Tall, funny, musical Violet can't stop partying with the wrong people. And, one beautiful summer day, brilliant, sensitive Sam attempts to take his own life.

Shipped back to Lyrice while Sam is in treatment, Violet is haunted by her family's missing piece—the lost shipwreck she and Sam dreamed of discovering when they were children. Desperate to make amends, Violet embarks on a wildly ambitious mission: locate the *Lyrice*, lain hidden in a watery grave for over a century. She finds a fellow wreck hunter in Liv Stone, an amateur local historian whose sparkling intelligence and guarded gray eyes make Violet ache in an exhilarating new way. Whether or not they find the *Lyrice*, the journey Violet takes—and the bridges she builds along the way—may be the start of something like survival.

Epic, funny, and sweepingly romantic, *The Last True Poets of the Sea* is an astonishing debut about the strength it takes to swim up from a wreck.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

“At once hilarious, insightful, and swashbuckling, Drake's debut is a lyrical adventure like no other.” —David Arnold, New York Times best-selling author of *Mosquitoland*

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“As warm and bright as a beach bonfire on a hazy summer night, *The Last True Poets of the Sea* will lift you up on a tide of love and lyricism, and carry you away, laughing and crying.” —Jeff Zentner, Morris Award-winning author

“This story of a young woman coming to terms with herself and her family is so filled with virtues and heart that it is hard to know where to begin. It is at once tender and incisive, profound and page-turning, warm and beautifully written and very funny.” —Madeline Miller, #1 New York Times best-selling author of *Circe* and *Song of Achilles*

★ “Wry, quick-witted, and filled with deep grief and fathomless joy in equal measure, this is a triumphant debut. Echoes of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and the barest touches of magical realism give shape to the story, which precisely and profoundly maps the ebbs and flows of surviving through trauma.” —*Booklist*, starred review

★ “A warm, wise, strange meditation on developing the strength to be vulnerable.” —*Kirkus*, starred review

★ “Drake has created an authentic and romantic tale, loosely based on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, that shows that life can be embraced again even after enduring a tragedy.” —*School Library Journal*, starred review

★ “Violet emerges as a genuine, sympathetic protagonist struggling to create something new from the wreckage of her life.” —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ “Drake's enthralling debut doesn't shy away from the big stuff. *The Last True Poets of the Sea* explores themes of identity, mental health, romance, and family with grace and gravitas.” —*BookPage*, starred review

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- 2020 CCBC Choices List
- 2021 Best Fiction for Young Adults (BFYA)
- Winner of the New England Book Award for Young Adult Literature
- A Booklist Editor's Choice Best Book of 2019
- A Booklist Top 10 Debut of 2019
- A Bookpage Best Book of 2019
- A Kirkus Best Book of 2019
- A Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2019
- A Chicago Public Library Best Book of the Year
- Rainbow List Selection
- Junior Library Guild Selection

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Sasha and Amber Read - Interview – Julia Drake, author of The Last True Poets of the Sea](#)
- [The Readers Couch - TBT with The Last True Poets of the Sea by Julia Drake](#)
- [Daily Bulldog - Words on Words: An interview with Julia Drake](#)
- [Geeks Out - Interview with Author Julia Drake](#)

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- [Publishers Weekly - Fall 2019 Flying Starts: Julia Drake](#)
- [PW KidsCast: A Conversation with Julia Drake](#)

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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