



**Title:** Where the Crawdads Sing

**Author:** Delia Owens

**Imprint:** Putnam

**Publisher:** Penguin Publishing Group

**On sale date:** August 14, 2018

**ISBN:** 9780735219090

**Format:** Paperback

# BOOK RESUME: WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

For years, rumors of the “Marsh Girl” have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens.

*Where the Crawdads Sing* is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

“A painfully beautiful first novel that is at once a murder mystery, a coming-of-age narrative and a celebration of nature. . . . Owens here surveys the desolate marshlands of the North Carolina coast through the eyes of an abandoned child. And in her isolation that child makes us open our own eyes to the secret wonders—and dangers—of her private world.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“Steeped in the rhythms and shadows of the coastal marshes of North Carolina’s Outer Banks, this fierce and hauntingly beautiful novel centers on . . . Kya’s heartbreaking story of learning to trust human connections, intertwine[d] with a gripping murder mystery, revealing savage truths. An astonishing debut.” —*People*

“This lush mystery is perfect for fans of Barbara Kingsolver.” —*Bustle*

“A lush debut novel, Owens delivers her mystery wrapped in gorgeous, lyrical prose. It’s clear she’s from this place—the land of the southern coasts, but also the emotional terrain—you can feel it in the pages. A magnificent achievement, ambitious, credible and very timely.” —Alexandra Fuller, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Don’t Let’s Go to the Dogs Tonight*

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Educator’s Guide](#)
- [Discussion Questions](#)

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## RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

- [Williamson County Schools votes to keep five challenged books](#)

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