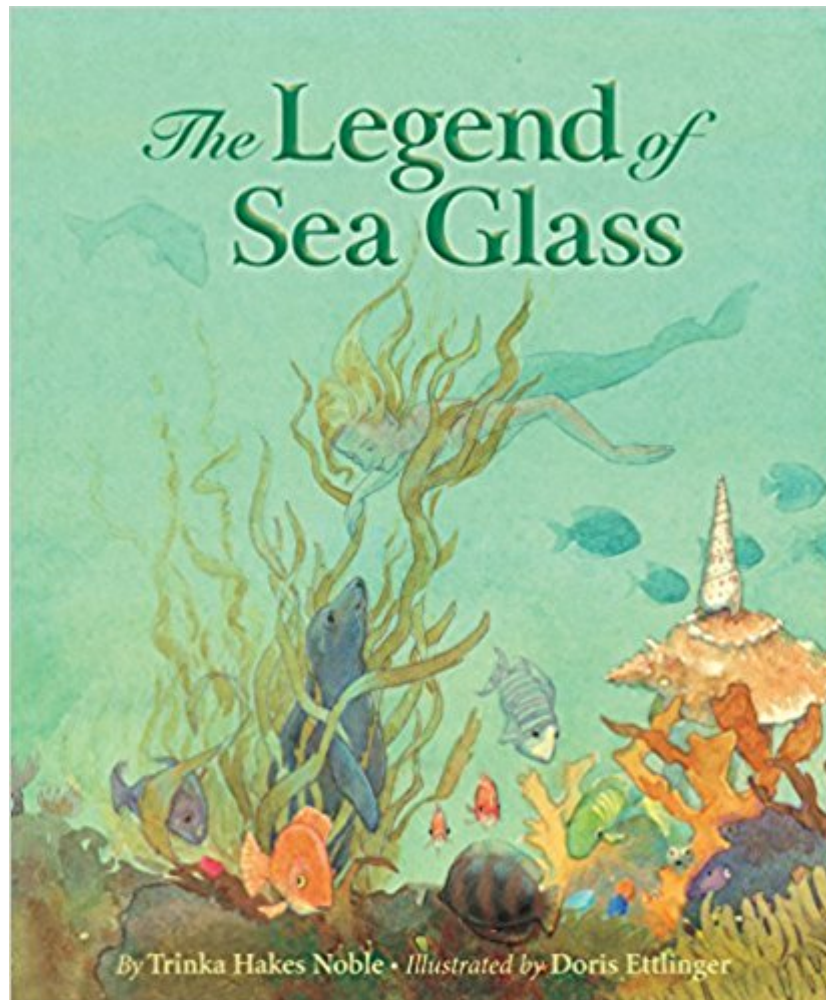




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The Legend Of Sea Glass (Myths, Legends, Fairy And Folktales)



Synopsis

Long, long ago there was a time when men did not venture into the deep ocean waters. It was believed that the world was flat and to sail beyond the horizon meant falling off the edge of the earth. So even though they were drawn to and fascinated by the ocean, men feared it. And as men lived their lives above the water, far beyond their view and in the ocean's deepest depths lived mysterious and magical sea creatures, half girl and half fish. These shy, gentle creatures were called mermaids and much loved by the ocean. And when men finally overcame their fear and ventured out to sea, risking disaster and even death, it was the mermaids who came to their rescue. Written by award-winning author Trinka Hakes Noble, this original legend explains the origin of sea glass, attributing it to the tears of mermaids, weeping for lives lost at sea.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 990 (What's this?)

Series: Myths, Legends, Fairy and Folktales

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #773,438 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #62 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Mermaids](#) #873 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment](#) #3413 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

The Legend of Sea Glass by Trinka Hakes Noble is a watery, colorful picture book about the mysteries of the deep blue (and sometimes green) sea and one of the legends that sprang forth from it. The book opens to an explanation of why men did not venture across the seas: namely

because everyone thought the earth was flat and they could fall off it at any moment. While mankind squabbled about the shape of the earth, mysterious creatures frolicked with seals, otters, and dolphins deep on the ocean floor. These creatures were, of course, mermaids: maidens of the sea [who] had splendid flowing tails and long graceful hair that swayed like seaweed in the ocean's currents. When men discovered that the world was round, they quickly set out on watery adventures. Some were caught in storms that destroyed their ships and placed their lives in danger, and when this happened the thrifty mermaids rushed to their rescue. Unfortunately, the mermaids couldn't save every single man, and whenever one was lost they shed many tears that ultimately turned to glass on the ocean floor. Written for grades 1-4 and ages 6-9, this is an interesting little adventure book that conjures memories of the legend books of yesteryear. Although Ms. Noble's prose is both creative and age-appropriate, it is wordy enough to be daunting for emerging readers. But this is a minor quibble, especially since artist Doris Ettlinger's lovely illustrations are vibrant with sea colors and sea creatures that bring the book to life. Great for group or independent reading, or for those who are big fans of all types of myths and legends. --Picture Book Depot

The Legend of Sea Glass is a fantastic picture book that invents a mythology behind "sea glass", brightly colored pieces of glass commonly found on beaches adjacent to bodies of salt water. In this story, mermaids dedicate themselves to saving the lives of humans lost at sea; but sometimes the tempestuous, raging waters are so cruel that even a mermaid's mercy is not enough. A note of wistful tragedy permeates this thoughtful storybook, brought to life with beautiful color illustrations. --Midwest Book Review

Worth having in our collection of children's books for our grand kids!

A boy held a seashell in his hand as he shaded his eyes, looking across the blue expanse of the sea. Surely it wasn't safe to venture far beyond the beach into the water for in those days it was believed the world was flat. It would be oh so easy to fall off the edge of the world where "savage sea monsters were waiting to devour them! No, keeping close to the shore was the only way fishermen would live to see the next day. The boy, along with others, "collected beautiful shells and stones, turning them into adornments and treasured keepsakes. They hunched forward, searching the sand for those wondrous treasures. They could search the sands, but there were even more wondrous treasures under the ocean waves. Look! There was one peeking out from behind a coral mass. It was a mermaid, "half girl and half fish,"

with splendid flowing tails and graceful hair. Her beauty matched that of the fish and reef she hid in, a treasure not to be seen by those people searching the sand. Another mermaid, with long-flowing beautiful dark hair, played beneath the waves as a dolphin looked on. When it was sunny, the shy mermaids would come to the surface and lie on the rocks near the shoreline, still hidden from the view of the treasure hunters. All of a sudden, the quiet waves churned, disturbing their quiet time. A voice cried out after a loud crash of splintering wood. A young boy was tossed from a fisherman's boat into the waves, but the mermaids gently carried him to his father's outstretched arms. He thanked them, but they were soon gone. The tale was soon repeated about those beautiful mermaids, the half girl, half fish creatures of the sea. Those strange, but truly real mermaids began to rescue other seamen, but one day a little mermaid failed in her mission. Was the sailor lost forever to the sea? The little mermaid rested her head on a rock and the tears began to flow into the ocean ... This is a fascinating legend of the origin of sea glass that will delight young readers. This is one legend, an unusual one, that totally captivated me as soon as I saw a little mermaid peeking out from that coral reef. Trinkta Hakes Noble's rendition of the origin of sea glass is certainly a fun, memorable one. Doris Ettlinger's fabulous artwork complements the tale perfectly. There's not a single page that failed to lure me into the story. There are retold legends galore, many I love, but this one about the little mermaid and the origin of sea glass is sure to become a classic! This book courtesy of the publisher.

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