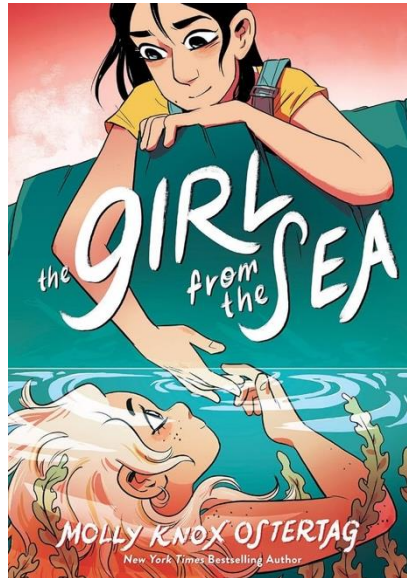


Book review

Title: The girl from the sea
Author: Molly Knox Ostertag
Genre: Graphic novel, comic, fiction



Summary:

This graphic novel is about a 15-year-old who is too scared to express herself but does so through meeting a mythical creature—a Selkie. Morgan is afraid of what people would think of her if she showed her true self. She tries to hide Keltie at first from others, but as she gets to know her, she falls in love. Morgan abandons her friends to spend time with Keltie and ignores all their efforts to communicate with her. She soon understands that she can't ignore her friends forever and tells them about Keltie. Morgan realises that there was no reason to be afraid as her friends accepted her for who she was and did not judge her.

Recommendation:

I would really recommend this book as the way it is drawn is very interesting in that the author has used contrasting borders of black and white to create tension in the pages. When the plot reaches a climactic or tense moment a black border is used, in addition it also creates a sense of foreshadowing. Whereas, when a conflict is resolved or the author is trying to show a happier moment a white border is used, and a vibrant colour palette additionally reflects this. The author of this book, Molly Knox Ostertag has drawn her characters in a way that makes them recognisable yet not very detailed, perhaps reflecting the seemingly unresolved ending of the book.

I really liked this comic book as it is a reflection of how in real life there is always someone out there in the world to support you. In addition, this book is a reminder that you shouldn't be ashamed of who you love. At the beginning of the book when Morgan is ashamed of Keltie the colour palette used is very dull and melancholy yet, at the end when Morgan accepts herself the colour scheme is brighter reflecting how much happier she is.

My favourite part of the book is when Morgan takes up her old dress-making skill and sews Keltie a dress made out of her seal-skin. She then chooses to wear some seal-skin as well to show how she has accepted Keltie and wants to be with her. Furthermore, the writer has made this an even more special scene by drawing the pair as if they were glowing, showing the spark between them and how their love for each other radiates through the page.

Rating:

