

## Book Review Examples

*Tides*

Betsy Cornwell

Clarion Books, 2013, 294 pp., \$ 16.99

Fantasy

978-0-547-92772-5

When Noah and his sister, Lo, go to live with their grandmother on the Isles of Shoals for the summer, they thought they were in for an uneventful holiday. However, when they meet a selkie, a being that can transform from a seal to a human, everything changes. When a human starts kidnapping members of Mara's pod for scientific research, Noah and Lo must help to save the selkies.

There are many elements to this novel that make it a wonderful read. The weaving of Irish and Scottish folklore with the modern world is a unique element of this text. Cornwell also delicately addresses critical issues such as gender identity, body image, and eating disorders, creating opportunities for meaningful classroom discussion. Overall, *Tides* explores many issues that are relevant to the lives of adolescent readers, and Cornwell's lyrical storytelling and incorporation of folklore validates its place in an academic setting.

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