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The Old Mermaid's Tale: A Novel of the Great Lakes

Kathleen Valentine

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The Old Mermaid's Tale: A Novel of the Great Lakes Kathleen Valentine
(Novel - 132k words. Love Story, Coming-of-Age, Historical - Paperback or eBook) In 1960 when Clair Wagner's friends are showing off their new bikinis at the local swimming hole and planning weddings, Clair is plotting her escape from her rural farm-community life. She is headed for college on the shores of Lake Erie with plans for the future and dreams of a "handsome sailor with the constellations of the Northern Seas in his eyes".
Into her life comes Pio, a beautiful Italian fisherman, who longs for a life of adventure on the Great Lakes under the aurora borealis. Clair soon meets Gary, the dashing son of a wealthy shipping magnate, who introduces her to Canal Street on the waterfront where she encounters The Old Mermaid Inn, a tavern that, as Gary tells her, "deserves its reputation".
But The Old Mermaid Inn, with its giant painting of a seductive mermaid, is home to some fascinating people including Tessie, the owner and original mermaid, and the intriguing Baptiste, a Breton mariner injured in a shipwreck, who earns his living as a musician.
With Pio, Clair discovers passion, with Gary she gains entry into the world of the commercial waterfront, and with Baptiste she discovers all-consuming love. But as her relationship with Baptiste grows she discovers he is far more complex and mysterious than she could imagine. He has secrets and his secrets will alter her life forever.
Set against the backdrop of Great Lakes shipping legends and lore, The Old Mermaid's Tale is in part a coming-of-age story, in part a history of a transformative time in America, and throughout a love story of grand proportions that pays homage to the importance of story-telling in our lives. (Also available as a boxed set with Each Angel Burns and Depraved Heart for Kindle.)
"The soul, they say, is divine and the flesh is iniquity. But I am a musician and I ask this - without the wood and the strings of the violin, where would the sonata find form?" - from the Prologue

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Catherine Gabel:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book could be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the guide untitled The Old Mermaid's Tale: A Novel of the Great Lakes can be fine book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

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