

The Curious Mermaid

The book cover features a woman with long brown hair and colorful hair ties, wearing a pink mermaid tail, floating in the ocean. To her right, a large, detailed octopus with colorful suction cups is also in the water. In the background, a green fishing boat is visible on the horizon under a dramatic sunset sky with orange and blue tones.

Written by
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PROLOGUE

My story is about a mermaid. Oh! Do you believe in mermaids? Do you think they are real? Well, let me tell you my story, and maybe after reading it, you may think twice. Maybe they are real...

When a fisher goes to the sea, many things may happen... even meeting mermaids. It is not only a sailor's story, but other fishers won't believe the one who met one.

If you think they are only fairytales, then, I only have to say: I love fairytales.

Good reading!

Christy

CHAPTER I

Once upon a time, very far into the sea, there was a castle. The sun rose on the horizon, and its rays dived into the water, up to the castle. They reached a window, the one of Kaylynn's bedroom. Once the rays fell on her eyes, she woke up. Very quickly, she swam up to the washroom. She took a look in the mirror and brushed her hair. "I am hungry, but I don't want to eat seaweed for breakfast..." she said. "Maybe oysters would be much better!"

She swam up to the kitchen and found delicious oysters. "Kaylynn, what are you doing?" asked her father.

Kaylynn looked at him.

"Oh no! I don't want to eat seaweed again!"

"Kaylynn, you need to eat vegetables if you want to be a healthy mermaid!"

Suddenly, Alice, Kaylynn's sister, swam quickly into the kitchen.

"Come on Kaylynn! Come and play with me!" Alice exclaimed. Kaylynn followed her sister, too happy to escape the seaweed. "But, your vegetables Kaylynn?" said the father.

"Later Daddy! Bye! Bye!" replied Kaylynn before swimming away from the kitchen.

The two little mermaids swam and played in the castle.

Then, an octopus appeared behind them.

“Peekaboo!” Octopus said. “Can I play with you?”

“Yes! Of course!” they said together.

“We can play hide and seek?” proposed Kaylynn.

They swam very quickly to hide while Kaylynn laughed. Then she counted from one to ten. At ten, Kaylynn started to look for them. Very quickly, she found Alice.

“Where is Octopus?” Kaylynn said.

She passed in front of a bunch of bananas, and Alice laughed.

“What are you laughing at?” asked Kaylynn.

“Because you didn’t notice the bananas,” replied Alice.

“The bananas?”

She took a look and saw Octopus smiling.

“Oh, you! You changed your color to yellow! This is why I didn’t see you!” said Kaylynn.

“Alice!” shouted the father, angrily.

CHAPTER 2

“Your bedroom is a big mess! Come right now to tidy it up!” Alice became sad. She looked at Kaylynn and Octopus.

“We can play another time...” Kaylynn said.

Alice nodded and sighed.

Kaylynn looked at Octopus.

“Let’s get out of here and swim away, agree?” asked Kaylynn.

“Right, I’m following you!” replied Octopus.

“Daddy, I’m going out!” she shouted.

“What about your breakfast Kaylynn?” responded her daddy, yelling.

“Erg... Later daddy, when I’ll come back!”

“Are you sure you want to skip your breakfast?” whispered Octopus.

Kaylynn grimaced.

“Vegetables again... no way! I prefer to swim. Let’s go now before he becomes angry and obligates me to take this breakfast.”

“Kaylynn!” shouted her dad.

She looked at Octopus.

“I think I have to go and take this breakfast after all. See you later Octopus,” Kaylynn said sadly.

“Okay, see you later and eat well!”

Kaylynn swam to her father.

“Yes Daddy?”

“If you are going to swim away, don’t forget to stay away from the boats,” reminded her father.

“I will... but why?”

“Because they are dangerous.”

“I promise Daddy... I thought you wanted me to eat my breakfast.”

“Well, yes. But I know you don’t like vegetables. So go now before I change my mind.”

Kaylynn disappeared as fast as she could.

Shortly after that, a head popped out from the water in the middle of the main port.

“Wow, so many boats,” said Kaylynn.

Many fishers were driving their boats. Some were coming; others were leaving. This activity fascinated Kaylynn so much that she didn’t see a boat going right towards her. Before the boat hit her, she dove quickly at the last second. She saw the bottom of the boat passing where she was a few

seconds ago. The boat was going away in the sea.
She followed it.

CHAPTER 3

Kaylynn followed the boat until it stopped.

“Why the boat stops in the middle of the sea?” she asked herself.

Suddenly, a net fell from the boat. It was huge, and even though she swam quickly, she was trapped in it with many fishes.

“Help!” she cried. “Help me!”

She struggled to escape, but it was useless. Slowly, the net was going upward. Kaylynn was scared.

“What is going on... oh no! The boat is pulling the net. All fishes are going to die!”

Far from there, Octopus heard the cry easily.

“Oh my god! Kaylynn is in danger!”

Octopus started to swim as fast as an octopus could. Stuck in the net above the water, Kaylynn looked at the strange board. A big crane above her head made a horrible sound. The net was pulled toward it with danger. She looked downward; a man was looking at her with strange eyes.

The man slowly pressed the control of the net and released it. All the fishes fell on the board.

“Welcome aboard fishes!” said the man.

The fishes were tapping, flopping and flapping, throwing themselves everywhere, trying to go back into the sea, but it was useless. They were suffocating and finally, died. Kaylynn was among them, feeling very sad.

“What are you doing? They are dying! Put them back in the sea! Quick!” exclaimed Kaylynn.

The man looked at her.

“What a big fish you are! Maybe I will cook you for my dinner,” he said.

Kaylynn was shocked, and helpless. Moreover, she was probably going to die too. She started to cry. The man felt pity for her. He lost his intention of eating her. “You cry like my little girl... are you a little girl? Yes, you are... I can see it. That’s right; I won’t hurt you even though you look like a strange fish.” The man stepped towards her. Kaylynn, scared, tried to stand up by grabbing the net. She pulled, pulled, and pulled, but it was so hard that she could not make it. She then pushed the fishes and tried to reach the edge of the boat. Sometimes, she pulled on the net to be able to jump into the sea. But she was barely able to raise her head on the ramp. She looked at the sea. It was so close and so far at the same time. Then she saw Octopus looking at her. A tear rolled on her cheek.

CHAPTER 4

Kaylynn pulled very hard on the net. She wanted to escape the boat. The man didn't know what the big fish wanted to do.

“Hey! This is my net!” said the man.

But Kaylynn pulled on it again, trying to reach the edge of the boat which was so high when you don't have legs. If she were only able to pull more, she would reach and jump overboard.

The man was fed up and pulled on the net.

Kaylynn lost her balance and grabbed the rail. She looked at the man, angrily. As she was holding the rail, she pulled with force on the net and jumped into the water, bringing the net with her. Unfortunately, as the man was holding the net, he was dragged into the water.

Octopus who watched the fight was waiting that moment. As soon as the man fell, the eight arms gripped, surrounded, encircled and carried him towards the darkness of the sea.

The man fought, struggled, made every effort to free himself, but the eight arms held him tightly. When he was about to release his last breath, he

was suddenly pulled up by two other arms, two almost human arms. He tried to look but he was too weak. Then, he fainted.

The head of the fisherman reached the surface. Kaylynn's head popped out next to the man's body.

"He's still alive," she said.

"Why you saved him?" asked Octopus, pulling out his head from under the water.

Kaylynn didn't answer.

"Help me to bring him on his boat."

Octopus dived.

"Octopus! Come back!" ordered Kaylynn.

The octopus reappeared.

"I don't understand Kaylynn!"

"Please, help me... I don't ask for anything else," replied the mermaid.

Octopus stretched one arm, grabbing the edge of the boat. Another arm reached the other part of the boat. Kaylynn pushed the man towards the

boat, then four long arms took the body and raised it up to the edge and let it fall aboard. Kaylynn took the net, rolled it, and threw it overboard, falling on the fisherman.

CHAPTER 5

Octopus looked at Kaylynn.

“What?” she asked.

“Well... did you save this human?”

“This man looks good.”

“How do you know?” asked Octopus.

Kaylynn did not know what to say.

“See! You don’t know!” exclaimed Octopus.

“He looks nice,” she replied quickly.

“You already said it but don’t forget, he’s a fisherman. He catches and eats fish.”

“So? Don’t forget, you and I eat fish as well.”

Octopus was speechless.

“This is why you saved him?”

“Hum...” murmured Kaylynn. “At least, he is not a pirate!” she exclaimed.

Octopus was laughing.

“What is so funny?” asked Kaylynn.

“There are no more pirates nowadays!” said Octopus, still laughing.

On the board, the man woke up. He wondered what happened as his last memory he was dying underwater.

“How did I come back on the boat?” he murmured.

He pushed away from the net which was on him, got up and took a look at the sea. Kaylynn and Octopus dived once they saw the man getting up. He tried to see the mermaid.

“Whoever and wherever you come from, I know you are here, and I know you saved my life.”

Under the water, Kaylynn heard what the man said.

The man took a big breath.

“Thank you...” he added.

Kaylynn smiled.

“You’re welcome,” she whispered, making few bubbles which went up to the surface.

The fisherman started the engine of the boat and took the direction of the port. Kaylynn and Octopus emerged from under the water, in the

middle of the waves. This time, Kaylynn didn't follow the boat.

"Still angry at this man?" asked Kaylynn.

"I don't know..." replied Octopus. "I guessed he deserved to die, like any other human."

"Why?"

"He was attacking you and that made me angry."

"He didn't attack me. I think he was surprised to see me. Probably he never saw a mermaid," explained Kaylynn.

"He's a human. They tell horrible stories about mermaids."

"Well, I guess this time, he will change his mind. That will be the best part of the 'horrible' stories!"

"Because you saved him?"

"Yes... I'm sure he will want to know what we are doing..."

"And mainly, how you are and see if there is a way to eat you! Don't forget, you are not a human. Don't try to know what they think; this is why they are dangerous!"

The boat arrived at the port.

“Was it good?” asked another fisherman.

The fisherman was still in shock.

“Kind of...” he murmured.

“Any good story to tell this time?”

The fisherman raised his head and looked at the man.

“What if I tell you I met a mermaid?”

The other fisherman was surprised and then, laughed loudly.

“Ah! Ah! Ah! You’re always the one to tell amazing stories! Very good indeed!” he said while going away.

The fisherman was thinking.

‘I should find her. She surely has a family, and other people are living somewhere in a submarine kingdom,’ he thought.

And the fisherman started to dream about this other world, full of amazing and marvelous people, living so close.

“One day... I will discover it,” he whispered.

THE END



Christy is 6 years old. She enjoys playing with her dolls. She also likes to play Uno with her daddy.

She loves playing with her little brother. Both play Lego or they go on a picnic, «but not a real one», said Christy!

She likes to go to school. Her favorite subject is PE. Even though she likes Hong Kong, she likes travelling. Her favorite place is Japan.

And moreover, she likes to write this story. She hopes you will enjoy it too!

«The Curious Mermaid» is the story of a mermaid. Her name is Kaylynn. She likes to play with her sister Alice and their best friend, Octopus. However, Kaylynn is a little bit naughty and doesn't listen to her father. She is too curious. One day, she didn't care about her father's warning and follows a boat.

Octopus told her: «Humans are very dangerous, I don't trust them.»

What will happen? And what about her friend Octopus?

Christy invites you to take a look at her first story. In the meantime, she started another story.