



READING GUIDE

November, 2026

The Woman In The Waves

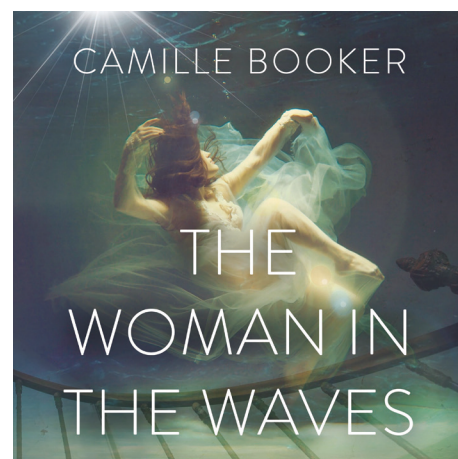
Camille Booker

In short

Haunting historical fiction where a young woman's visions of a mermaid may reveal the truth beneath the waves.

Synopsis

There's something sinister lurking in the waves... It's 1921 in Widow's Peak, a gloomy fishing village on the south coast of New South Wales. Nineteen-year-old Missy Green fills her days helping her fisherman father on his trawler, and spending time with her grandfather, the town's reclusive lighthouse keeper. It's a dreary existence. Everything in her sea-salt-soaked life is upended, though, when she glimpses something in the water - a mermaid staring ominously at her. When Missy discovers the dead body of a woman washed up on shore, her disturbing hallucinations of the mermaid gather steam. Missy must navigate the treacherous waters of her secret-filled town while attempting not to drown in the recesses of her mind - and in the eyes of a handsome detective...



Discussion points

1. How did you interpret Missy's mermaid sightings - hallucination, folklore, trauma response, or something supernatural?
2. In what ways does the novel explore the tension between duty, desire and independence?
3. How do Missy's relationships with her father and grandfather shape her emotional world?
4. What future do you imagine for Missy after the book ends?