



The Sea of Tranquility: A Novel

By Katja Millay

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The Sea of Tranquility: A Novel By Katja Millay

A School Library Journal Best Book of 2013

An ALA/YALSA Alex Award Winner

I live in a world without magic or miracles. A place where there are no clairvoyants or shapeshifters, no angels or superhuman boys to save you. A place where people die and music disintegrates and things suck. I am pressed so hard against the earth by the weight of reality that some days I wonder how I am still able to lift my feet to walk.

Two and a half years after an unspeakable tragedy left her a shadow of the girl she once was, Nastya Kashnikov moves to a new town determined to keep her dark past hidden and hold everyone at a distance. But her plans only last so long before she finds herself inexplicably drawn to the one person as isolated as herself: Josh Bennett.

Josh's story is no secret. Every person he loves has been taken from his life until, at seventeen years old, there is no one left. When your name is synonymous with death, everyone tends to give you your space. Everyone except Nastya who won't go away until she's insinuated herself into every aspect of his life. But as the undeniable pull between them intensifies, he starts to wonder if he will ever learn the secrets she's been hiding—or if he even wants to.

The Sea of Tranquility is a rich, intense, and brilliantly imagined story about a lonely boy, an emotionally fragile girl, and the miracle of second chances.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Aspiring concert pianist Nastya's left hand has been so badly damaged, she will never play the piano again. What caused the injury has left the 17-year-old traumatized; in fact, she has chosen to become mute and hasn't spoken a word in more than a year. Meanwhile, Josh, also 17, has lost his entire family to death, leaving him bereft and very much alone in the world. The two troubled teens meet and begin a cautious friendship that will blossom into something deeper. But will it be enough to save the two from themselves? Author Millay writes her first novel from the respective points of view of the preternaturally introspective teens, whose relentless self-loathing—especially Nastya's—will test some readers' patience, as will the book's length and often deliberate pace. That said, fans of character-driven fiction will find much to admire in this deeply felt novel that is an excellent example of crossover fiction, which has equal appeal to older teens and the twentysomethings who are now being called New Adults. --Michael Cart

Review

"Fans of character-driven fiction will find much to admire in this deeply felt novel that is an excellent example of crossover fiction." (*Booklist*)

"A heart-stopping, emotional journey from the first word to the last. Hands down my favorite book of the year...and quite possibly all of infinity." (Colleen Hoover *New York Times* bestselling author of *Slammed* and *Point of Retreat*)

"Alternating first-person narratives allow Millay to delve into the minds of both of her main characters, and she keeps readers on the edge of their seats...Populated with perfectly realized teen characters—not a stereotype in sight—this is the ideal crossover novel." (*School Library Journal* (starred review))

"A stunning debut. *The Sea of Tranquility* stole my heart, broke it, robbed me of breath, and made me ache. Read it and fall in love with Katja Millay's raw, lyrical writing." (Ann Aguirre *USA Today* bestselling author of *Enclave & Outpost*)

"Equally heartbreaking and uplifting—a riveting, unforgettable read. Absolutely brilliant." (*Maryse's Book Blog*)

"Everyone should read this book at some point in their lives. It was GORGEOUS and unforgettable. A must-read!!" (*Aesta's Book Blog*)

"I am finding it difficult to express with mere words just how much I adore this book. It touched me in a way that only a few books before it have. It left my heart aching, filled with sadness and despair, love and hope. So much hope." (*The Indie Bookshelf*)

"*The Sea of Tranquility* reminded me that books aren't *just* entertaining; they're more than that. *This* was more than that. It caused me to feel, invaded my thoughts, my heart...it became a part of me." (*Tough Critic Book Reviews*)

"One of the most AMAZINGLY written books I have read to date! Simply BEAUTIFUL! I was so connected to the story and it's characters, I completely tuned out everyone and everything around me while reading. I felt like I was there and I never wanted to leave." (*Lisa's Book Review*)

“The best advice that I can give readers who are considering reading *The Sea of Tranquility* is BUY IT NOW! *The Sea of Tranquility* by Katja Millay is one of the best books of 2012. It definitely earned its spot on my MUST READS list.” (*Reading, Eating and Dreaming*)

"This is the kind of story that stays with you because you can't stop thinking about it." (Cristina's Book Reviews)

About the Author

Katja Millay grew up in Florida and graduated with a degree in film & television production from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. She has worked as a television producer, and a film studies and screenwriting teacher. Currently she resides in Florida with her family. *The Sea of Tranquility* is her first book.

Users Review

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