Fourteen-year-old Luce has had a tough life, but she reaches the depths of despair when she is assaulted and left on the cliffs outside of a grim, gray Alaskan fishing village. She expects to die when she tumbles into the icy waves below, but instead undergoes an astonishing transformation and becomes a mermaid. A tribe of mermaids finds Luce and welcomes her in—all of them, like her, lost girls who surrendered their humanity in the darkest moments of their lives. Luce is thrilled with her new life until she discovers the catch: the mermaids feel an uncontrollable desire to drown seafarers, using their enchanted voices to lure ships into the rocks. Luce possesses an extraordinary singing talent, which makes her important to the tribe—she may even have a shot at becoming their queen. However her struggle to retain her humanity puts her at odds with her new friends. Will Luce be pressured into committing mass murder?

The first book in a trilogy, Lost Voices is a captivating and wildly original tale about finding a voice, the healing power of friendship, and the strength it takes to forgive.

Sarah Porter on Lost Voices

Dear Amazon Readers,

The mermaids of legend sink ships and drown sailors, but no one ever seems to ask why. Is their behavior really nothing more than mindless cruelty? Or do the mermaids suffer from a deeper compulsion? If so, what provokes their dark desires?

Would it even be possible for a mermaid to make a different choice and change her destiny?

Lost Voices is a search for the secret hearts of mermaids. The mermaids of the Lost Voices trilogy are the girls who have lost their humanity through suffering—yet whose humanity keeps coming back to haunt them? They can enchant seafarers and drown them, yet they...
can’t drown their own feelings of loss and rejection. But if revenge can’t heal their heartache, what can?

Many of us struggle to understand who we are and what our own humanity means. Once you learn all the bad things people are capable of, then how can you accept that you’re one of them? Especially when we’re young, I think a lot of us experience something similar to what the mermaids feel: we have a sense of being like everyone else but also fundamentally other, part of the everyday world but also outside it. Sometimes we don’t know if we want to fit in, or if we’d rather just be as different as possible.

These mermaids think they’re superior to humankind. They want to believe they’ve escaped from both the vulnerability and the brutality that are part of the human condition. But some of them gradually come to understand that there are aspects of their humanity that are worth fighting to preserve--no matter what the price.

Best,

Sarah

My Personal Review:
I don’t know what it is about summer time reading that makes want to read a mermaid book, but it does. When I was offered the chance to read and review Lost Voices I was really looking forward to it, but it was not at all what I was expecting. Lost Voices is a very dark, raw, and at times an emotionally gripping read with a unique paranormal twist. Sarah Porter takes some very sensitive topics and gives her broken, abused, unloved, unwanted female characters an out from their emotionally, painful lives by turning them into mermaids.

I don’t know if I was more shocked at some of the horrible things some the girls in endured while they were human, or how malicious many of them became as mermaids. In some cases I could sympathize with that, but I was hoping that by escaping the human life it would have made many of them change. The story itself is heartbreaking, especially for the story’s main character Luce who’s had to grow up in a broken family and on the run. Her mother died when she was born, and her father was constantly taking her on the run with him until his brother convinces him to settle down in their home town, a fishing village in Alaska. Everything changes when she father doesn’t return from a fishing trip and she’s forced to stay with an uncle who despises her and ultimately does something that sends Luce into the sea, searching for away to escape what she just dwelt with.

One of the things I liked about what Sarah does with her story is how she incorporates music with the mermaids, and the way it helped Luce find her voice, and in a way helps her heal. Luce is a character who annoyed me at times, and other times I felt bad for. I wanted to help her escape the hand
she was dwelt in life, and upon becoming a mermaid, Luce becomes a stronger character in my eyes since shes constantly battling the need to give into her siren side, and the urge to do whats right. With the tougher topics Sarah tackles in her story, I was surprised at how well the story flows, and how real some of the events felt. To say I was a little shocked to read about the horrible, unthinkable things that happen to many of the girls in the story would be an understatement. Its heartbreaking to read about this and normally I would have stopped reading it, but Sarah helped me to understand the girls and why they turned into the vengeful mermaids they became. I couldnt blame them for feeling the way they did, and really, I couldnt except them to act any differently.

Despite having a hard time with the subject matter of the story, I got to a point where I wanted to know how some of the characters would turn out. I didnt get the closure I wanted with all of them with the storys abrupt ending, but I can only assume that Sarah will provide more closure as the series progresses. Lastly, I liked how the storys setting plays a big part in the story. It not only helps with the feel of the story, but Sarahs vivid details helped make it come alive, and it wasnt hard to envision each place. This is a dark story with a lot of very sensitive topics and things that happen through out it. There is hope with Luce, as she learns shes the only one who can determine her outcome in letting go, moving on and finding strength from within. This is a story that wont be for everyone, and its one Id recommend to older teen readers.

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Lost Voices (Lost Voices (Trilogy)) by Sarah Porter - 5 Star Customer Reviews and  
Lowest Price!