



Undertow

Callie Kingston

Download now

Read Online ➔

Undertow

Callie Kingston

Undertow Callie Kingston

Reality is slipping away as Marissa sinks deeper into an abyss. Only truth and love can bring her back from the edge. While she slept on a desolate beach on the wild Oregon coast, a rogue wave pulled her out to sea. Now Marissa dreams each night of a merman who rescued her. Obsessed, she risks her life once again in the frigid ocean. Will Marissa recover or remain forever lost in the eddies inside her mind? Sometimes, the deadliest dangers lie within.

Undertow Details

Date : Published February 17th 2012 by Carolwood Press (first published January 1st 2012)

ISBN : 9780615599878

Author : Callie Kingston

Format : Paperback 230 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Fantasy, Paranormal, Fiction

 [Download Undertow ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Undertow ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Undertow Callie Kingston

From Reader Review Undertow for online ebook

Michelle (FabBookReviews) says

Told in third-person narrative, Undertow is at once a romance, coming-of-age, and a psychological story. Marissa, the main character, is a slightly caustic teen who has a strange obsession with the water. One night, alone on a beach, she falls prey to the cold waves of the ocean, but miraculously survives. Marissa thinks that she was rescued by a creature of the sea, and confides this thought to her closest friend. Her friend Kelly is immediately concerned, but Marissa is convinced by what she saw. She loses her focus in school and retreats from her day-to-day life as she becomes frantic with trying to find evidence in the existence of the sea creature she saw.

I must admit that I found it slightly difficult- at times- to clearly maintain my sense of place in the story. There are a few tangents going on in the story, as well as characters that seem to be just dropped into the book. Things are not always explicated in the book, and some characters like Marissa's friend Jim are not given much background or voice. The lack of in-depth explanation is fine, though I do caution readers that it may take time to get into the specific (almost staccato-like) writing and rhythm of the book. While this book does explore and investigate folklore and tales of the sea, it is, at its core, about mental health. Marissa's severely traumatic childhood along and her tenuous relationship with her mom and dad are at the base of Marissa's infatuation with the sea. Chapter by chapter, the hidden mystery of those stories begin to slowly unravel.

I personally thought the psychological aspects to the novel were very interesting, and the author has a degree in psychology, and is very clearly sensitive to mental health issues. On the whole, I would have appreciated a bit more evenness in the novel, along with more details and fundamental explanations of the main characters and certain story elements. It's definitely a thought-provoking read, quite singular in theme and topic, and should appeal to those who appreciate coming-of-age contemporary reads.

Carina says

My Rating: 3.5 / 5

First thoughts:

Undertow turned out to be completely different from what I expected and from what other novels with mermaids I've read before are like. It's dark and a little bit heavy, but nonetheless captivating and hard to put down. While I had some problems connecting with the main character, I definitely enjoyed reading this novel and will definitely take a look at Callie's future novels.

More detailed:

While the most mermaid stories I've read so far were rather light-hearted, I think that this genre has the perfect premise to explore a darker side. But even with that thought in mind, *Undertow* is still completely different from what I might have expected. It doesn't really deal with the actual paranormal aspects, but with the reaction of a person who's faced with a world that's different - no longer "normal."

Marissa has not had the easiest life and even though it takes a while to get to know all of her family's darker moments, the fact that she has suffered is very obvious right from the beginning. She is a protagonist that I'm feeling incredibly sorry for - someone you just want to hug and tell them that everything will be all right again.

Sadly, despite my sympathy for her, I couldn't really connect with her. She's really moody and unpredictable and I couldn't help but wish for a more stable main character. But this is just a personal preference, because Marissa's mood swings and problems are the center of this story and without them it wouldn't be the same.

All in all, I definitely liked *Undertow* and, like I said above, I'm looking forward to more books by Callie Kingston. If you've been looking for a very unique New Adult novel, stop searching and pick up a copy of *Undertow* and let yourself be sucked into Marissa's story of searching for a truth that might or might not be there.

I received an eBook copy of this novel from the author in exchange for my honest opinion.

Lauren says

Marissa has a problem--- several actually, most importantly is that her boyfriend breaks up with her. Well, really, she catches the lying, cheating jerk talking with another girl, flips out, and leaves. Then, Marissa goes to the beach to calm down and drifts off to sleep. The next thing she knows, she's waking up in a hospital: confused and afraid. Everyone keeps telling her that she should have drowned, but the only thing Marissa knows for sure is she can't get the merman who saved her out of her head...

When I first read the premise, I am excited. *Undertow* sounds like it has great promise and will definitely be something I enjoy. Who doesn't like stories about mermen? I haven't read a good sea creature love story for a while, so *Undertow* is just in time! Or not...

Undertow is NOT about a merman and a land dweller that live happily ever after despite their differences (as the book synopsis suggests). Instead, it is about a girl who has serious mental issues and has to try to deal with her growing problems. Throughout the story, I see her slowly slip further away from reality until she is almost unrecognizable to the character that I meet in the beginning.

Right off the bat, I am not thrilled with Marissa. In the opening scene, I think that she blows things WAY out of proportion. Yes, her boyfriend is cheating on her. Yes, he admits it later. No, the "proof" she has is not good enough to support her accusation. I understand that she's upset because she thinks he's cheating on her... but, really, just because a boyfriend talks to another girl does not automatically mean that he is cheating. Throughout the rest of the novel, I find myself easily irritated by things that Marissa does and says.

Though it is hard for me to connect with Marissa, I still really like how Kingston shows the progression (or rather digression) into insanity. I can definitely see someone in Marissa's shoes being frustrated and irritable after everything that she goes through. The hard road Marissa has to face is evident, and it makes me want to know more. One thing that I like is that towards the end of the book I learn more about why things are so strained between everyone in Marissa's family... it's not pleasant, but it makes sense. The major problem with this is that by the time I find out why Marissa acts the way she does I already don't like her and don't care. I don't have any sort of bond with her, which makes her problems, and past issues seem flat and unimportant. My lack of empathy with Marissa coupled with the misleading summary drastically takes away from this book for me.

Undertow definitely has many great elements, the story just doesn't click with me. If your looking for a paranormal merman story this is not the book for you, but I would definitely recommend *Undertow* to people who like reading about psychological challenges and self discovery.

The Cover:

I really like this cover; it drew me in from the start! I did think that it was more symbolism for the merman and human plotline, but I can see why it would be fitting for this type of story as well. Very intriguing cover!

I give Undertow 3 out of 5 hearts: Worth Reading

Anagha Uppal says

This is one of the best contemporary novels I've read in a while.

For about the first 100 pages, it seems to be a creepy one-sided paranormal romance - while alone on the beach, Marissa almost drowns when the tide comes in. When she wakes up, she is positive a gorgeous merman saved her and (while she was semi-conscious) kissed her. Even the synopsis made it seem like a supernatural novel. And yet, it was so much more than that!

You can see Marissa's intensely warped mind the way she constantly thinks about . I feel like the author has some kind of experience with this stuff, because she portrayed it exceptionally well.

Highly, highly recommended!!

Jessica says

In Undertow, Callie Kingston paints the reader a portrait of a troubled young woman who is quietly descending into the abyss. I honestly didn't realize from the synopsis that Marissa was suffering from a psychotic break. When the story begins it seems like the merman is real, and a love story will ensue. However, very soon after, the reader sees how manic Marissa really is. It's almost like two stories cobbled together into one. I admit that because I didn't know Marissa's past at first, I really didn't like her for quite a while. I think I would have felt differently if I had known earlier on.

Still, the break that Marissa suffers is done well. It blends so seamlessly into the overall story that, if like me you didn't realize it was there, it's tough to see at first. In a matter of chapters Marissa goes from a person who has a normal, somewhat happy life, to one who can't seem to tell fantasy from reality. She draws further and further away from other people. She doesn't seem to care what she looks like or how she acts. It's scary, but I think believable. The other thing that I enjoyed was how Kingston leaves the ending kind of open for interpretation. I won't spoil, but it fascinated me.

I feel the need to also mention how well the other characters in this story are done. Marissa's mom is shown as a woman who is constantly drinking and misplaces her anger on her daughter. Marissa's father is a man who doesn't know how to communicate with his daughter, and is holding on to things from the past that he just can't let go. Even Marissa's friend Kelly has dark secrets of her own. With all these people surrounding her it's not hard to see how she got to this point. The one saving grace is Jim, whom I loved! He is definitely just what Marissa needed.

I went into Undertow thinking that I was going to be reading a story about a young girl and a merman. Instead, what I discovered between the pages was an intriguing story about a girl's psychotic breakdown and the slow, difficult healing process afterwards. Although it wasn't quite what I was expecting, I'll fully admit

that this was a story that kept me reading. I'm happy to say that it was well worth my time.

Nicole Peterson says

At some time or another you will feel pity or sympathy for just about every character in this book.

Marissa busts her boyfriend Drake, and a friend cheating on her. She pretty much loses it like anyone would. She goes to her favorite spot on the beach. She falls asleep and dreams that she was caught in an underow and dragged out to sea. Just as she is about to die she is saved by a gorgeous merman. She leaves home to go to college. Drunk mother and ex behind, she finds a roommate Erin, and meets a cute Physics major, Tim.

Even though she is away from Drake she is still suffering from the betrayal. And every night the dreams continue and get further in depth of her merman saviour. She is certain that it is reality that she is remembering. She starts to "research" for proof of her underwater love. She arrives at her mother's for the holiday and is a complete wreck. Her mother is of course worried when she arrives. Even a little irritated. Marissa and her hadn't made plans and the visit catches her off guard.

She shares her story with her friend who is freaked out by it. Thinking, and rightly so, that Marissa has finally lost it. Christmas day she gets a call from Drake that sets her off and stresses her out again. Not good since her hold on reality is seriously starting to slip.

After the holidays she returns to school, but is kicked out by her room mate when she locks herself in her room all weekend and goes nutty. Jim gets her out of her room and moves her in with him. He seriously loves Marissa and is willing to do just about anything for her. Shortly after she drives to the ocean. She thinks she hears the merman calling to her to return to him. She walks out into the ocean, but thankfully there are a couple of surfers there to save her.

She next semi-wakes in the hospital.

At times I think that Marissa is a spoiled snot. Others I feel for her. She has gone through a lot in her short life. Her mom and dad weren't exactly outstanding parental material. She's messed up and they are messed up. It seems like everybody is blaming someone else for their own faults. Unfortunately, Marissa seems to bear the brunt of it.

At first I thought this was gonna be paranormal of some kind, but instead it's a trip through Marissa's crazies and recovery.

Faye {Daydreaming_Star} says

The Tide Rolls In

It would be impossible to start this review without mentioning that this book is not what you may expect it to be. Or, it wasn't what I expected it to be, but in a good way. With my expectations blown out of the water, excuse the pun, this book took on a powerful and intriguing tone that had me truly captivated. I found myself needing to know what was going on, how would it all end up? I practically read this book in one sitting because I simply had to know. The story, the words, the characters, all had me completely and utterly mystified and I loved every second of the journey it took me on. There were a few issues I had with the book, but over all, it was one that kept me fascinated and interested and as soon as I finally finished it, I was left with a smirk on my face and a strong feeling towards the book I had just read.

The Waves Rush Over

There are some books that we read, that are intentionally trying to get us to think, they're trying to point us in a direction and to give us words of advice and wisdom. Then there are the other books that simply do this by accident, leaving the reader stunned and mystified. In my opinion, Undertow, is the kind of book that creeps up on the reader at the end, not one that has a blatant message throughout it. This is what I liked about it. It wasn't obvious or in your face, there were a lot of questions that the reader needs answered and these make it impossible not to turn the page and continue reading. Callie has definitely managed to write a story that allows the reader to be mystified by everything, not entirely certain as to where things are finally going to end up. It was well and truly captivating.

Weak Swimmers Drown

One of the things that I feel can make or break a novel, is the characters. While I wasn't particularly fond of some of the secondary characters, I found Marissa to be truly fascinating to read. It was interesting to read a book in a perspective such as hers, to feel like the world is looking at you, thinking you're acting crazy while showing the reader how sane it seems to the person. It was so interesting and intriguing and really made the story for me. Marissa had issues, she had recurring dreams, a horrid past and she was just trying to get through her life without drowning – both physically and emotionally. I loved her strength and her weaknesses and how it was possible to see through it all. She had a lot to deal with and she did it admirably.

Pulled Under

There were parts of the plot that I had issues with, the way that the characters handled our main protagonist irritated me, but I feel that this was supposed to happen. I only hoped that there could have been more of a way to see that things were changing at the end. I also wasn't a fan of the way that Jim and Marissa got together. It wasn't insta-love, which is one thing I really can't stand, but it didn't feel very natural to me and that was a little off-putting. Fortunately, however, these small snags with the plot didn't stop me from reading and I feel that they're likely to be cherished by other readers as the problems I had with them were all wholly personal. I also felt that it got a little slow towards the end of the book, I understood by the end that it was necessary, but I was tempted too many times to put the book down and not finish as I was nearing the end. It simply didn't work for me at all. Until, that is, I got to the end and then everything that went on before it changed entirely as the ending was completely and utterly stunning.

By The Current

All in all, Undertow, was a book that I found entirely fascinating and one that I would recommend to others. It had its flaws and I can understand that this story is definitely one that will not be for everyone, but I personally found it to be a captivating and thought-provoking read. It kept me entertained, it was mysterious and it also dealt with a very serious and heavy topic. It may not be my most favourite read this year, but it is definitely one that will stick with me for a while and I feel it is one that others should at least give a go. I'm glad that I read this book, and I have a feeling that you will be too. It is a story that makes you think, with a strong protagonist, an interesting and intriguing plot and an ending that truly packs a punch. The writing and characters felt a little forced at times, but these are simply minor blips on the radar.

Sara Kovach says

When I set out to read this book, I was going into it thinking it was a contemporary romance involving a merman, and really looking forward to read it. Boy, was I unexpectedly surprised - and excitedly so! This story has so many layers that go way beyond the surface - romance, breakup, breakdown, recovery, and so much more. Everything was revealed slowly, with little hints dropped at opportune times. Because the author did not reveal everything all at once, I found myself tied to the book, eagerly needing to know more. The pacing was phenomenal - Callie Kingston is a master! Can this really be her debut novel?

Marissa and the rest of the cast of characters are so believable - honest reactions to what is happening. I found myself easily stepping into Marissa's shoes while I was reading. I felt her pain, her yearning, her relief. Her friends responded just as I could imagine many of my friends responding to my life - well done!

It is so obvious that the author either is very familiar with the setting of this novel, or she has done some deep research. The descriptions of the scenes are so vivid and detailed. You could find yourself actually in the locations. There were times I was envious at Marissa being on the beach, and at other times, I was thoroughly scared of the beach.

This is a novel that will stick with me for some time. The emotion was so real! I want to thank Callie Kingston for asking me to read her novel & to be part of the book tour. This is now my favorite so far this year!!!!

Cameron says

Originally posted on the blog: What the Cat Read

This is one of those books that is not what you originally expect it to be. To say I was a bit disappointed is an understatement. I'm warning you now, I'm usually not one to give away spoilers, but in this one case I am making an exception. If you are looking for a book that is about a romance between a girl and a merman, then this is not the book for you. Instead, it's about a girl dealing with some serious mental issues.

For the first time I find myself at a loss on what to really say. On the one paw I wasn't expecting to read a story like this one at all, so it came as a bit of a shock. But on the other paw, it was an interesting read once I got into it. Kingston does a really good job at depicting Marissa's spiral into mental instability. It's hard to figure out what is real and what is false in the beginning. As the mysteries surrounding Marissa's life are explained, the answers do not paint a pretty picture.

Honestly my heart went out to Marissa. Once I got past my initial dislike for her, she actually was quite irritating at first, and started to understand what was going on, it was hard not to feel sympathetic towards her. I wanted her to overcome everything and find happiness in the end. It was easy to get caught up in her struggles as she battled with her breakdown.

The biggest issue that I had with this book was Kingston's writing style. The flow of events is just too abrupt for my taste and there are times where I felt like details were being left out. One particular example is when Jim first appears and Marissa's relationship with him. It's so sudden that I actually had to go back and reread a few sections in order to make sure I hadn't skipped a page or two. Meanwhile, I couldn't form a strong connection with him because there was very little detail given on who he was. Now I'm not saying that I need a full background summary and lead up on every character in every book I read, but some explanation would be nice.

Despite this though, the book has its moments where it shines. Not bad for a debut novel. Murr!

Mandy (I Read Indie) Anderson says

Marissa just found out her boyfriend has been cheating on her and so to clear her mind she heads for her favorite place, Crescent Beach. While there she falls asleep and ends up getting taken out to sea with the rising tide. Thankfully Marissa is rescued by a handsome merman. And not long after, Marissa makes it her life's quest to find him and join him in the ocean to live happily ever after. Well that's just what her mind wants her to think. In all actuality she is suffering a breakdown due to a very hurtful past and too much stress.

This book was absolutely amazing and nothing, I repeat NOTHING at all what I expected. Seriously, I thought that at any moment her merman was gonna pop up and whisk her away. Even at the end of the story I still held out hope. But honestly Undertow was such a wonderful story and so well written. There were times in the story I felt what Marissa was feeling; the author did a fantastic job getting emotions across to her readers. And Kingston did a wonderful job revealing certain secrets periodically throughout the story. I was very pleased with how the story unraveled.

Gosh I can't stop thinking about this one, really I am blown away by it. I will definitely have to keep this one in my 'To Be Read Again' pile. So much happens you will want to go back and ponder on it for a bit. And Undertow is one that I couldn't wait to get back to when I had to put it down. Trust me though, I read it quickly not leaving much time for it to be set aside.

I will say that anyone who loves contemporary fiction will adore this one. Pick up Undertow today and I promise you won't be disappointed.

ILoveBooks says

Marissa's life is far from perfect. She has a mother who always seems to be angry with her and a father who doesn't seem to notice her. It is interesting how the author portrayed Marissa's character. The reader will learn later on in the book that Marissa is not quite what she seems, but the author handles that problem very fluidly. Marissa is slipping and it's not just because her life is slowly becoming crazier.

Overall, the best and most interesting character was Marissa's. It is intriguing because most likely the reader won't take to her character right away. She isn't exactly a warm and friendly type, a bit prickly instead. However, her romance with the merman who saves her and her clear love for who she imagines him to be will serve to make the reader feel more compassion for her. The other characters are interesting...not all likable.

The plot itself is great. The author has a clear goal from page one and accomplishes that goal wonderfully. The ending is somewhat unexpected, but oddly perfect. This book is recommended to young adult/teen readers.

Cherie says

First, if after reading the book description you are expecting to read a paranormal romance involving mermen or other mythological creatures, you are going to be disappointed. Please don't let that stop you from reading this book, though!

Marissa has recently broken up with her cheating live-in boyfriend, has crazy parents, and has other issues from her past which become important as the story progresses. Trying to escape her life for a few minutes, she takes a trip to the beach and falls asleep. As the tide comes in, she is swept out to sea, pulled by a strong undertow, becomes trapped under some debris, and almost dies. Marissa becomes obsessed with the idea that a merman - or some other similar creature - has saved her.

What follows in the rest of the book is a fascinating journey into Marissa's mind. Is she forever broken by the events in her past or can she find peace? Was the creature real or was it a desperate attempt by her mind to latch onto something better for herself?

I was hooked right away. I liked Marissa and felt sympathetic towards her and her situation with her boyfriend and parents. Her relationship with her best friend and her new college roommate felt authentic. As I got a little further along, there were changes in Marissa's personality and behavior. At first I was a little thrown off by this and thought What the hell is going on with this girl? I started to dislike the character a little bit. And then the full extent of Marissa's reality emerges. All becomes painfully clear.

I am reluctant to say too much because I don't want to give anything away but I found this book really fascinating. Now, I've never known anyone personally with the same issues that Marissa has so I cannot

speak to the medical authenticity of the issues. However, Marissa's descent into psychosis was absolutely compelling. It was like a car wreck - horrible but I just could not look away. I loved the ending! Some might be disappointed because the author leaves things a little bit open to interpretation. I think it's that little extra something that earns this book it's fourth star.

Recommended for older teens - 16+ at least! - and adults that love realistic fiction.

Heather says

This one is hard to review. I don't want to give anything away because it will spoil the surprise of the book for you, but everyone on GoodReads has already given the surprise away so if you read any other review, you'll know what happens. And I feel I'd be misleading you if I didn't tell you right away that this is not a merman/mermaid book. This is a realistic contemporary ya book. There, so now you know. But you don't know the big surprise.

I didn't understand the beginning of this book at all. I couldn't figure out what kind of book it was trying to be. I totally went into this book expecting a mermaid story. I could not have been further from the truth. And trying to make it that way made me even more confused. So I didn't like it. Not right away. I kept complaining to my husband about it- "This book doesn't know if it wants to be paranormal, issue or romance!" The truth lies a little in all of that.

Even though Marissa finds out that her boyfriend is cheating on her and runs off to a beach to ease her pain, you don't really connect with her. She's living with her boyfriend at his parents' house. Already you know something is weird, about her or her mother or both of them. How many seventeen year olds live with their boyfriend period. And Shannon aka Marissa's mom is paying for her to go to college. I know times have changed but that wouldn't fly in my house. My son wants to live with his girlfriend I will not be paying his rent. (He's too young yet anyway.) So obviously the relationship between Marissa and mom is very messed up if she wants Marissa gone so bad she's willing to let her live with her boyfriend.

Slowly the story of a very traumatic life unfolds and Marissa becomes a more sympathetic character. We start to see why her shields are up around her parents always and why she has very few friends, why men are untrustworthy and why she is searching for the merman that she believes saved her that day she was at the beach and got pulled out by the waves after she fell asleep on the beach.

She starts dating Jim, a really nice guy, who is as happy as a puppy all the time. He's got the energy of one too. He reminds me of my yellow lab, except there is this one annoying thing that I fault the author for. He ends almost every sentence with "sugar" or "baby" both terms which like eating your favorite candy is great in moderation but in great quantities makes you queasy and feeling like you'll never want it again.

The author deals with several sensitive issues very well. Some could have been left alone, should have in a book for teenagers such as the issue of having children. That's a huge rock to lay on their shore and something they shouldn't have to consider until they are older. You'll understand when you read that part, but I understand why she did it and how it fit in with the ending.

So except for a few minor complaints Callie Kingston did a really good job of turning what I thought was a mermaid story into something much more. And she really had me going. Had me believing. And if she can fool me, I bet she can fool you. I'll be looking for future novels from her.

I will say that originally when I finished this novel I didn't think I could give it more than three stars and I

rated it that way on GoodReads. But after I let Jim's "sugars" and "baby's" die away and gained a little perspective, I realized she did something few other authors do. Treated with dignity and respect someone who deserved it. Who'd been a victim her entire life and finally had the courage to stand up for herself. With help.

Thanks to AToMR tours and Callie Kingston for letting me review this novel. I received a free copy in exchange for my review. I received no monetary compensation.

Kasi says

I have a severe inability to abandon any book mid-read, even one as poorly written as this book. The tone of the narrative was awful, the author is either ridiculously young or very much older than the target audience of this book.(I settled on old after another age obvious issue came about later) No one calls their parents "'rents", no one. Especially not college students. The over use of pet names is irritating and gag worthy. If you have ever seen the episode of The Office where Michael and Jan have Jim and Pam over for dinner and Jan has a total meltdown while they continuously call each other "babe"...well this is basically the same thing. Basically the author's entire effort at slang fell so flat you will roll your eyes every other paragraph. He attempts at twists and subtlety are fail and the attempts of romance are nauseating. Since the whole plot is paranormal-or-is-it? style I won't go into the utter failings of the plot but over all there is little to redeem that aspect.

All of the characters were totally unsympathetic and irritating, you couldn't even like the main character. Her boyfriend who is meant to be the hero figure basically made me roll my eyes every few sentences. Really the only thing that actually allowed me to finish this book, besides my compulsive reading issues, was the fact that it was set in Oregon. I love PDX and am currently stuck living away in the South, so the tidbits of geography from home were awesome. Even there the author betrayed her age, no one under the age of 50ish refers to a section of PDX as "The Alphabet District." We categorize based on directionals. All in all the geographical issues will matter less to the average reader than the plot and narrative issues. I wouldn't recommend this book to anyone who has another book they are even slightly interested in reading.

Julie(Reading By The Beach) says

First and foremost, people will start reading this book expecting a paranormal twist, but don't be fooled, this is not paranormal in any way. Undertow is an emotional story about a girl trying to find a reason to fight to live. A gripping novel that will send the readers on an emotional roller coaster that dips so low before the rise. A brilliant, realistic story about the power of obsession and the courage to live through it.

Marissa is no doubt, a damaged seventeen year old, becoming more realistic with each struggle that weighs her down. You feel through her, which is never an easy feat for an author. Marissa has experienced countless disappointments and heartaches, some that most people will never have to face, some inevitable. Like the ocean, Marissa is deep, dark and untempered until she finds her anchor.

The ocean motif(analogies that Marissa uses to describe things or people around her) leads you to believe that there will be a paranormal aspect(mermaids, most likely), but once you dig a little deeper, you see the importance of the ocean and the power that it holds over Marissa. Undertow will make you think, it will make you take a deeper look into the story to assess the subtle clues that are strewn without. Realistic

situations, realistic characters and powerful emotions are all wrapped up in the story.

Undertow is set in the scenic, coastal Oregon. Callie Kingston ferries you to each location with vivid imagery, adding a breathtaking element to her already omnipotent novel.

Exceptional writing that transports you into the story, to experience each new development as if it were your own. I cannot convey enough how emotional Undertow is. It starts out subtle then hits you full on like a rogue wave. A story that will burrow into your mind, escape impossible until you know the ending, no scratch that, way beyond the ending. This is a story that will stay with you. Recommended for ALL readers.
