



Stella, Star of the Sea

Marie-Louise Gay

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Stella and her little brother are spending the day at the sea. Stella has been to the sea before and knows all its secrets, but Sam has many questions. Does a catfish purr? Does a seahorse gallop? Stella has an answer for them all. The only thing she isn't sure of, and neither is the reader, is whether Sam will ever come into the water. Exquisite watercolors enliven this perfect summer story, while the gently humorous text captures the sometimes fun, sometimes trying relationship between an older sister and her baby brother.

Stella, Star of the Sea Details

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Author : Marie-Louise Gay

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From Reader Review Stella, Star of the Sea for online ebook

Whole And says

Marie-Louise Gay has truly crafted stories that nurture imagination and demonstrate incredible gentleness between the characters Stella and Sam.

If you have or know a toddler, I highly recommend all of the stories in this series to hold the position of classics on the book shelf going forward.

Although we watch very little television/videos, I also recommend any of the DVD's with Stella and Sam. Short episodes that journey through playful imagination, all the while the siblings and their friends speak and treat each other with spacious respect.

This is quality reading and quality television unmatched to any other programs or characters I've come across, a positive source to be exposed to. Gay reminds us how to see life through a child's magical perspective and inspires us to cultivate creativity through the ever day.

Bree says

i just love her red hair :P

Alex Schuler says

Stella; Star of the Sea is the story of Stella and her little brother Sam and their day at the beach. It's a very cute little story with beautiful, intricate artwork.

Sam is Stella's little brother, and he is hesitant to go swimming in the ocean. First, he has a lot of questions. "Where do starfish come from?" he asks. Stella tells him they come "from the sky[...]starfish are shooting stars that fell in love with the sea". This is one of the best lines I've ever found in a children's picture book. The rest of the story is similarly playful and dreamy, and the watercolor artwork matches this mood. The art looks a bit like a collage, with intricate patterns painted into the sea shells and the sails on the sailboats. The calming shades of blue and green create a sense of ease which contrasts with Sam's hesitance to go in the ocean. I really love that Marie-Louise Gay chose to do the art in watercolor, because it makes the ocean seem more realistic. This book really caters to the young imagination.

Jamila says

Useful for exploring questions and curiosity, as well as imagination and sibling relationships.

Katy says

Good, just not my jam.

La Lin says

o now i found another favorite children's book illustrator of my life :)")

nh?ng ph?n minh h?a tr?i dài nh? mình ?ang ng?i cùng hai ??a bé trên bi?n c?,
n?i s? hãi b?y lâu th? là b?ng đ?ng bé nh? l?i.

Jeani says

Adorable! I love how Stella explains the creatures to her brother, Sam. She has lots of patience for him and they seem very loving.

Jane G Meyer says

This book is fun to read aloud, and I just love Stella, with her red hair that is always wildly flowing in the wind or around her in the water. She's an adventure girl!

Macdiel says

-¿De dónde vienen las estrellas de mar? -preguntó Sam.

-Del cielo -respondió Estela-. Las estrellas de mar son estrellas fugaces que se enamoran del mar.

Qué cosa más linda en la vida.

Ann says

This is a colorful, vibrantly illustrated book about a brother and sister and their trip to the beach. Older sister Stella has been to the ocean before, but her younger brother, Sam, never has. Sam is constantly asking Stella "why, what and how." Stella kindly answers all the questions (albeit, creatively and not factually, per say, but it's charming reading "her" answers).

Kids should delight at the vivid illustrations and will probably relate well to a kid who asks a lot of questions.

My only complaints are that: I felt the reason Sam didn't want to initially go in the water wasn't exactly explained. Was he afraid of the water? Did he need his questions answered to be unafraid? Was he too curious about other stuff? And also, I felt sometimes the text didn't match the illustrations - like the text was placed one picture too early or too late.

These are pretty nit-picky things though, and really the book is charming! And I love the brother sister

relationship - that is truly special!

Rebecca says

Sam is quite nervous about the sea and has so many questions to ask before he's willing to take a swim. Stella, his big sister, answers them all and then asks "Sam!! Are you ever coming in?" Sam replies "YES!!". I love the part when she explains that starfish fall from the sky and they aren't afraid of the sea because they have learned how to swim.

Charlene says

I love Stella books. This author is from Canada, the soft watercolor illustrations are lovely; but mostly, I love the spirit of Stella. This is a wonderful book to give to our spirited, independent, adventurous daughters, nieces, etc.

Kathryn says

Okay, I can't really define why I'm giving this book five stars, but no matter! I just felt a connection to Stella and Sam and their day at the seashore. Aside from all the fun of exploring the seashore (love the passage where Stella explains to Sam that starfish are stars that fell in love with the sea!) this book perfectly captures a loving older-sibling/younger-sibline relationship. The big sister in me could totally go back twenty-odd years and empathize with Stella--yet I could also empathize with Sam! You see, Stella has been to the seashore once, before Sam was born, but this is Sam's first time. So, of course, he thinks Stella knows everything about the sea...and he is also just a teensy bit nervous about going in to swim himself. So, he spends most of the day asking Stella question after question about the water, the fish, the shells, everything! At first, it really is so very much fun to be the big sister--to have "been there and done that" and share all one's ginormous wealth of knowledge (even if some is slightly, um, made up!) Yet, after awhile, the constant barrage of questioning does get a bit tiresome... and wouldn't it just be so much more fun to go swimming together!? I admire that Stella never really pressures Sam or makes fun of him--just tries to be a good sister and friend to him and encourage... Anyway, this was just a really sweet story!

Thanks to Abigail for bringing it to my attention.

Connie says

Stella and her brother Sam are visiting the sea. It's his first time, and he has a lot of questions, like so many children we know.

Now, Stella seems to live in a genre I like to call "Children don't need parents". There are no parents in this book - and if you look closely, the only other people we see (and we don't see many of them, it's a very uncrowded beach) are children as well. (Don't overthink it, it'll only give you a headache and you won't be able to enjoy the book.) So the task of answering Sam's questions falls to her. And so she does answer them, with amazing patience, however fancifully. (I particularly liked reading that starfish are shooting stars that

fell in love with the sea.)

The real fun isn't in the Q&A session, which, no matter how cute, is just typical preschooler stuff (and we can all think of our own cuter stories to top it because our own cuties are the bestest, right?), but in the personalities. Without telling us explicitly, without making a big deal of it, we can see the huge difference in Sam's caution and curiosity with Stella's quite literal dive-right-in attitude. It makes them come alive as real-real people, and it's hard to do that in a short picture book.

Apparently there's a whole series of these books. I have every intention of getting more of them.

Fats says

Marie-Louise Gay created an adorable and (definitely!) lovable character in Stella. The soft watercolor illustrations on the cover are beautiful. Stella has captured my heart from the moment I saw her floating in the water with her bright orange hair, rosy cheeks, and winning smile. She was indeed the star of the sea.

Aside from her physical attributes, Stella is a strong female protagonist with a wild imagination and knack for adventures. She is an exuberant, high-spirited young girl who loves the sea and enjoys swimming. She is a good role model to girls who have younger siblings. She encourages her little brother Sam (who is equally adorable!) to go in the water with her. In spite of Sam being stubborn, Stella is patient, persistent, and does not give up so easily. Both Stella and Sam are sweethearts, and their relationship as sister and brother is simply brimming with love, love, love.
