

CHRISTINE RECOMMENDS...

IMAGINE YOUR STORY

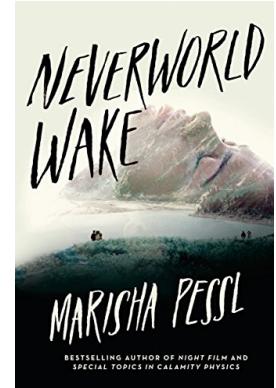
Click to learn about MPL's Summer Reading. Earn virtual raffle tickets to win real prizes!



This one reminds me of *Pretty Little Liars*, *We Were Liars*, and *One of Us Is Lying* (lots of LIES). After a mysterious tragedy, a group of friends is trying to untangle the truth from a web of — you guessed it— *lies*.

Once upon a time, back at the fancy Darrow-Harker School, Beatrice and her five best friends were the cool kids. When Jim (the leader of their group and Beatrice's boyfriend) died, everything changed and the friends drifted apart. One year after graduation, Beatrice is bringing the group back together, seemingly to catch up, but really to dig for answers about Jim's death.

They head to the beach estate where they spent so many weekends during high school (relatable, right?). Beatrice is starting to worry that her secret investigation has reached a dead end when there's a knock on the door. It's a mysterious man who announces that time is standing still. And time will remain stuck until the friends can come to an agreement: which of them will be allowed to survive the night? Dun Dun Duuuunnn. . .



Neverworld Wake

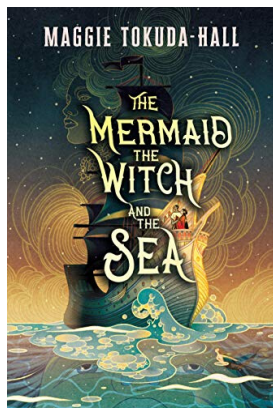
by Marisha Pessl

Available as an e-book on the Libby app

The Mermaid, the Witch, and the Sea

by Maggie Tokuda-Hall

Available as an e-book on the Libby app



Magical realism at sea! Girl pirates! Mermaids! As soon as I saw this book I knew I would have to read it, but it turned out to have a lot more going on under the surface than I expected from a rollicking adventure story.

Flora is a desperate orphan who takes refuge on the pirate ship Dove. In order to be safe and respected among the rough crew, Flora takes on the identity of Florian. It doesn't sound like an ideal life, but Flora just wants a bed, some food, and a way to survive.

Her plan to stay quiet and blend in goes out the window when she learns that the pirates are planning to sell their unsuspecting passengers into slavery. She joins forces with the intriguing Lady Evelyn Hasegawa (who is on her way to an unwanted arranged marriage) to hatch a daring escape plan. Just like the title promises, this story has a mermaid and a witch named Pirate Supreme. It also has a diverse, queer characters and a healthy dose of romance.

If you were a fan of *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* or *Bloody Jack* when you were younger, try this darker, more grown-up take on the girl-pirate-in-disguise story.

Click on my picture to email me your recs!