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Forgive My Fins

Debbie Barr

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Reviewer: Debbie Barr.
Reading Level: Young adult
Rating: Outstanding
Genre: Fiction; Fantasy fiction;
Subject: Mermaids--Juvenile fiction; Princesses--Juvenile fiction; Interpersonal relations--Juvenile fiction; Books—Reviews;

Lily Sanderson is not your average, awkward teenager. She has other problems to deal with. Like the fact she's a mermaid: a mermaid princess. And she's got to kiss her crush by her eighteenth birthday or she loses her crown for good. One problem: she kisses the wrong boy, her annoying neighbor Quince, which magically bonds them together and begins the process of turning him into a merman. Lily is furious and takes him back home to Thalassinia, but learns she can't break the bond until they've gone through "counseling." After three tests on a desert island and a week back on land, Lily still claims that she can't stand Quince, the bond is broken. Once she's finally away from him, though, she realizes the things she felt from him were coming from herself, not the magical mermaid bond. In the end, Lily makes up with Quince and decides permanently stay on land with him.

Childs creates a memorable voice for Lily, charming and funny, which helps a romantic plot that could feel tired and old become fresh and full of life. Readers will find themselves thinking in silly undersea phrases such as "damselfish" and "son of a swordfish" that help add to the mermaid fun. A perfect book for young adults that are looking for a more innocent paranormal romance and for any girls that secretly wished they could be mermaids when they were kids. *Forgive My Fins* will delight teen girls of all ages.

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