



The Storm Bottle

Nick Green

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They say that swimming with dolphins is the number one thing to do before you die.

For 12-year-old Michael, it very nearly is. A secret boat trip has gone tragically wrong, and now he lies unconscious in hospital.

But when Michael finally wakes up, he seems different. His step-sister Bibi is soon convinced that he is not who he appears to be. Meanwhile, in the ocean beyond Bermuda's reefs, a group of bottlenose dolphins are astonished to discover a stranger in their midst – a boy lost and desperate to return home.

Bermuda is a place of mysteries. Some believe its seas are enchanted, and the sun-drenched islands conceal a darker past, haunted with tales of lost ships. Now Bibi and Michael are finding themselves in the most extraordinary tale of all.

The Storm Bottle Details

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From Reader Review The Storm Bottle for online ebook

Gwynn White says

Two things attracted me to The Storm Bottle . . .

Firstly, the cover - gorgeous, isn't it? - and, secondly, I was intrigued to read a paranormal fantasy about dolphins. I mean, everything else has been done, right? I think all that's left are fleas, sea cucumbers and . . . okay, okay, you get my meaning. Dolphins are fresh and new.

I was not disappointed by Nick Green's efforts. If I were to sum up this book in a few words, I'd say: Spellbinding. Imaginative. Different. Unexpected delight. Huge fun to read.

According to Nick Green, his inspiration came the day he was walking along an English beach where he spotted a group of swimmers playing in the waves with a completely wild dolphin. Without stopping to think, he threw himself into the water to join the fun. What resulted is a middle grade - don't agree with that, I think this book has great cross-over appeal - fantasy capitalizing on the mystique of the Bermuda Triangle where just about anything can happen. (It's time someone did something with that Bermuda Triangle myth!)

As it turns out, for Bibi and her stepbrother Michael anything was about the worst thing imaginable.

Not to give away spoilers . . . After an accident at sea, Michael and a dolphin named Rodrigo end up changing places. Michael, now a dolphin, is thrust into the pod known as the Privateers who - amongst other things - chase dolphin girls around the Bermuda seas. Rodrigo finds himself locked in Michael's body, trying to make sense of life in a human family on land. It's left to twelve-year-old Bibi to sort out the mess. This makes for a great adventure, with a lethal - and wholly unexpected - twist in the tail.

The book is narrated by both Bibi and Michael and each bring their own charm to the story. Bibi is wonderful, so dry and astute - wise beyond her years - and I loved being in her head. She gave me lots of chuckles. Michael, AKA Rodrigo, has a tougher time of it in the story. Being a human trapped in a dolphin's body, he has a totally unique view of the world. I think he played his role perfectly. I felt for him with every tail flick that brought him closer to home. And the real Rodrigo? His pain and confusion is brilliantly portrayed. This is Bibi narrating before she learns that Rodrigo is now occupying Michael's body:

"Shall I make you comfy on the sofa? I'll put the telly on."

Michael looked horrified. Bermuda TV can have that effect. I screwed up my courage. "No, come to my room," I said. "Tell me about those freaky tests they made you take."

I patted my bed. His eyes went circular. Quickly I checked (I had a huge centipede get in once) but there was nothing on my duvet except its printed map of Bermuda.

"You can sit on it," I told him.

But he lowered himself towards the carpet. I slipped a bean-bag under him and he sat like a ragdoll, looking over my room as if everything was new to him, my books, the stereo, the gleaming bottles. He could hardly take his eyes off my deep blue curtains.

Gripping my hand seemed to calm him.

"I thought-" He snatched that strange gulping breath. His words came slowly, yet urgently, like Morse code. "At first I thought this was all a bad dream. A horrible dream I couldn't su-su-surface from. But it's not, is it?"

"No, Michael. It's not a nightmare. You're awake. You're safe."

He leaned close and I heard his terror.

"I am not Michael."

And then I had to turn the page to find out more . . .

Now, what about the world building?

Nick Green's under-sea world was one of the great strengths of his book. His dolphins were so consistent and so . . . fishy. Unlike many other paranormal/ shifter books I've read, these dolphins were not just human voices and opinions wrapped in fins and blowholes. They are 'real/' and their concerns exactly what I'd imagine dolphins worrying about.

And talking about concerns, like the ocean, this book has many layers. I really enjoyed the way Nick Green explored the relationships. Step siblings, Bibi and Michael had never really clicked until the accident. Then it's too late. Bibi and her father have an interesting, if remote relationship, which undergoes a massive change. Bibi's dad and her stepmother's new marriage is also put to a grave test. And those are just the human perspectives. The interactions below the water are even more intriguing. Definitely a strength of this book.

All told, I thought *The Storm Bottle* was amazing, and I would recommend it to anyone who loves an exciting paranormal fantasy. Obviously, given the age of the characters, there's no romance, but the book really didn't need it to be enchanting.

So how many stars? *The Storm Bottle* is definitely a Five Dolphin Pod read.

Sally says

I really enjoyed this story set in the Bermuda about a boy and dolphin swapping bodies.

Bibi and Michaels parents get married and Michael is forced from his life in England where he is a swimming champ and excels at school. Bibi loves her life in the Bermuda, where she has enjoys trips out to sea on her friends boat collecting old bottles that she finds washed up on the shores.

Bibi tries to show Michael how lovely life can be in the Bermuda, but he is sulky and distant. Until one day they see some dolphins from her friends boat.

The resulting struggle of her new family to accept Michael in a new brain damaged state was difficult to read, his mum wants to protect him but Bibi's dad wants to have as little to do with him as possible.

As Bibi starts to believe Michaels claims that he is NOT Michael the desperate struggle to get Michael and the dolphin Rodrigo to swap bodies again takes over the story line.

The characters are very believable and likeable. The dolphin world is unique, different, and enchanting and Michaels struggles to survive as a dolphin are entertaining and riveting.

Aimed mostly at older children 9-12, I think this will also be enjoyed by teens and adults with a love of dolphins. I am passing this to my 9 year old daughter who I think will love it just as much.

I also love the use of the old bottles that Bibi has collected, and the storm bottle itself, which is something I had never heard of before.

I love it all, the setting, the characters and the story line.

Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

3.5 stars

This is a very original story. I don't think that I have ever run across anything like it before.]

Michael and Bibi are thrust into a family together by the marriage of Bibi's father and Michael's mother. They don't quite get along. They are tolerant, but both long for something different.

Their something different comes along. Michael is rescued from drowning by a dolphin, and surprise, the dolphin and Michael trade places. They now are in different worlds than they know how to live in. I really enjoyed how Nick Green was able to make their transitions realistic, well, the story isn't realistic, he just made it seem realistic.

I enjoyed his descriptions of life in the ocean. It took quite a bit of creativity to come up with describing the world as a dolphin would see it. He made it sound so interesting, but frightful for a human out of his element.

Anyone who loves stories dealing with the life of animals would enjoy this book. It ran a little slow for me in some places and was easy for me to set down, that is why I gave it a 3.5 instead of a 4 rating.

Maureen Timerman says

Be ready for an exciting adventure, along with some sadness, depending on how you look at it.

Michael's Mother has married Bibi's father, and thus he has left England and moved to Bermuda. He is not a happy camper. When his step-sister Bibi gets him to go out on the water for a fun time, neither has any idea how their lives are going to change.

We end up traveling with a school of dolphins, and we meet bullying head on. We also are confronted with dolphins who would rather perform, and are given their food, than live in the wild. Makes me think of real people, and what we give up for free food...the Welfare system??

I feel that this would be a great teen read, and good lessons are learned. We also learn a bit about Bermuda, and a lot about dolphins. We learn about using a storm bottle, a special bottle filled with whale oil, used to predict weather.

Enjoy this well written tale, and great characters.

I received this book from I Am A Reader, Not A Writer Blog Tour, and was not required to give a positive review.

S. Policar says

The start of this story is a little slow, then again as soon as you begin reading you may as well be watching a movie. I honestly believe this story could be as big as A Dolphin Tale or Nim's Island.

Anyway, it's the perfect start. Girl and her younger step brother go out on a boat with an older guy that's friends (and yes JUST friends) with the girl. before they hit open sea they spot a bottlenose dolphin, which is odd considering wild dolphins don't generally go near the shore. Bibi (the Girl) and Michael (the younger brother), dive into the water and see if they can touch the dolphin. The dolphin takes off and they chase it a bit. Bibi stops and calls for Michael to stop but he ends up in a riptide, with the help of the reappearing dolphin, Bibi gets Michael back to Hal's (the older friend's) boat. One thing the reader must always keep in mind. They're in Bermuda so you know it's about to get interesting in strange ways.

Think of this book like Freaky Firday only with Dolphins! Somehow the dolphin that helped save Michael switched bodies with Michael!

Okay from here on out there will be nothing more about the story, simply because I will not give away any spoilers. The things I commented on aren't spoilers they're in the blurb and synopsis which is what caught my interest to this book back in February when I got it, which was WAY before this review is taking place. The way this story is written it would make an awesome movie as I stated before, if the write company and screen writers were found to tranform it to screen. This is a wonder story that people of all ages will enjoy especially if they like movies like Nim's Island.

The Bottle Storm will make you laugh as well as cry. Even if it's for younger readers, everyone will love this amazing story. Nick.. Find someone to make this a movie.. You'll be rich.

This story has a strong holding to taking care of the earth, the ocean in particular. Every year hundreds of dolphins, whales, and other marine mammals are killed due to fishing nets, harpooning, and the trash we humans leave everywhere. This story takes a slight turn. What if some of the really bad storms we thought were just mother nature or god...weren't? What if the next life taking, city destroying storm we have is really just a dolphin calling for the Dance of the Voices?

I give this book 5 of 5

Reviewed by

S.Cu'Anam Policar

Freaky Fiction Writing Author

Around the Universe Book Tours Apprentice

Fae Books Tour Host/Reviewer

Girls <3 Books Tours Host

LadyAmber's Book Tours Host -

B3 Book Tours Host

I Am A Reader Not A Writer Blog Tour Host

Katherine says

Great book

This is truly a great 'man meets dolphin book. It has an interesting premise, and the characters are definitely memorable. The ending is worth waiting for.

Gabs {My Full Bookshelf Reviews} says

Read more of my reviews at [My Full Bookshelf Reviews](http://myfullbookshelfreviews.blogspot.com)

Okay, so this book? Positively amazing. Practically flawless. Simply stunning. Do you understand how much I loved this? I feel like I have to use a gif to communicate how much I adore this book:

This is GIF status, people. If I give any book a gif, it means it's either really terrible or unbelievably fantastic.

I was hooked on this book from the very beginning. Bibi was an awesome, easy to like main character. Michael was slightly less easy to like, but as I continued to read this story, he really develops as a character, and you can't help but like him as well.

Now, onto the plot. I don't want to give anything away, but it reminded me of a certain movie that I loved when I was younger. That is really vague, I know, but I don't want to give away a single thing about the plot. You'll love it--that's all I need to say.

Every other chapter alternates between Bibi and Michael. I have to say that I liked Bibi's POV a lot more than Michael's, but I still really liked Michael's. It's just that Bibi was my favorite character in the whole book.

Now, I know that I've been raving about book endings lately, and I don't like to repeat myself, but holy poop! The ending was so amazingly awesome! I was trying not to cry, and then I was trying not to cheer! That's not an exaggeration, I was seriously holding back tears. I feel like there could easily be a sequel how the author ended it, but at the same time it can be a stand alone book as well. It is just so good!

As soon as I finished this, I rushed back to Goodreads because I had to become a fan of Nick Green, and I had to write a review telling people how stupendous this book is. This is the reason that I still buy free books on kindle; because among all the garbage, there's that one treasure. It sounds cheesy, but it's true.

This review can be found on <http://myfullbookshelfreviews.blogspot.com>

Sheenah Freitas says

I love marine life. So when I got a request to join in a blog tour for a book that featured dolphins, I happily agreed.

I really really wish I could give this book to myself when I was twelve and read this instead of Island of the Blue Dolphins, which has nothing to do with dolphins whatsoever. Nick Green is absolutely clever. I loved how he took the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle and made sense of it using the marine life. It's hard to put

my thoughts into an actual review, but I'll give it ago:

By an odd turn of fate, Michael, the step-brother to Bibi, has switched bodies with a dolphin. He now has to learn how to hunt and fend for himself and discovers how to be a better person overall and deal with living in Bermuda (he's originally from London). Wanting to go back, the Privateers, a small pod of dolphins that originally thought him to be Rodrigo their friend, take him on a journey to the Tiding — a place of information for rainvoices (that's what dolphins call themselves). In the human world, Bibi is taking care of Rodrigo. Being a dolphin in a human body, he's had to adjust and people mistake him for having brain damage. The only person who actually treats him like a normal person anymore is Bibi and the strain of taking care of a "brain damaged" child is starting to cause a strain on her family. Bibi decides to help Rodrigo get him back to his dolphin and they put a plan together.

This novel is full of heart and self-discovery. The children really come into their own and learn how to live and lose. The description of how dolphins see and live really gave me a fresh perspective on them. I really felt immersed in the world and like I was really swimming with the dolphins. I will admit that the ending was bittersweet, but I think that's part of the charm and beauty of this novel.

Jennifer Pittman says

Is it your dream to swim with dolphins? I know a few people (myself included) that would love to. I would be happy just to be able to touch one! :) In this novel it tells the tale of BiBi and Michael, both from their POVs. A boating accident has left Michael in the body of Roddy (a dolphin) and vice versa. Each character gets to learn more about themselves throughout the story. They learn about what they take for granted in life, what it's like to lose everything that you know. How would you react if you were suddenly in a dolphin's body? Away from your family and friends. You are now living in the water, catching your food, learning to adapt to your new self and surroundings.

I loved reading The Storm Bottle. The names for the sea creatures (rainvoices, thundervoice, etc), are such beautiful names for them. I will always think of dolphins as rainvoices now. It's fitting. The Storm Bottle is great for people of all ages. I do hope to read more by Nick Green!

Christina M Condy says

So this book is very different from what I normally read. This book is DEFINITELY geared towards the younger YA, however even adults can enjoy this tale.

Each chapter is told from a different Point Of View, this makes it easy to follow along with whose head your in. I would have to say that I preferred Bibi's POV, but I didn't mind switching to Michaels head at all.

The characters are well developed and relatively believable. We have a relatively typical situation in the beginning with a newly formed family, complete with step-siblings. I found it odd that the father kept referring to Michael as Bibi's "Step-Brother", as a mother of a blended family we NEVER say Step anything. We are one family now with all that entails. I guess I found it a bit disquieting that he would make sure everyone knew that Michael wasn't HIS son. But other than that one issue that I personally had, I'd have to

say the rest of the characters are very likeable and easy to understand.

I would recommend this book to anyone ages 7 and up, there are a few larger words which a 7 year old may need help with if they are just starting chapter books, but it is easy enough to read to a younger child. And the story itself is a wonderful tale that can open up the discussion of swimming with dolphins and many other topics which I simply won't go into or it will spoil the book for you.

Personally I love happy endings and this one has a unique twist to it. I won't say what it is. But some will like it others won't. just depends on your own perspective I suppose. That being said I can honestly say this book was enjoyable to read and perfect for a middle grade book.

Details/Disclaimer: Review copy was provided to me in exchange for a fair and honest review. The free book held no determination on my personal review.

Leslie aka StoreyBook Reviews says

it's Freaky Friday meets Sea World. while the concept of this book is interesting, it just didn't grab me. I finished the book but it took much longer than it should have considering how fast I read. The best part was probably the last 10% of the book (not sure how many pages since it was on my ereader).

reviewing this book for StoreyBookReviews.com, was given a copy of this book for an honest review.

Bluejay44 says

Excellent read for all, not just for children. I laughed and I cried , such wonderful concepts of dolphins and whales and how they might perceive the human world..

Heidi says

I confess, I'm a big fan of animal stories and stories about the ocean. This book has many things that I enjoy reading about, the ocean, other places (Bermuda in this case), animals, and magic. Switching places is not an uncommon storyline, but I've never read one quite like this. Dolphins are an animal that I find endlessly fascinating, both beautiful and savage at the same time. There are of course stories of dolphins saving human lives, but not quite the way Rodrigo saves Michael. It was intriguing to read about the incredible adjustments that would be necessary to live as a dolphin does. I loved the imagery that Green provides, I could almost smell the ocean air and feel the ocean swells. I really wanted to be there and see the dolphins.

I enjoyed the characters, the setting, and the plot. Bibi is one of those characters that make me smile because of her spunkiness. Her stepbrother, Michael, who nearly drowns in the first chapter, brought out my empathy, he's having to adjust to having a stepfather and stepsister, like Bibi, but he's also moved to a place very different from the home he has known and that is always a shock. And Hal, the squatter and fisherman, who takes Bibi out on his boat and 'plays' sailing games with her, a true friend. The setting was beautifully depicted, very important in a story like this one. And the plot, looking at life on land and sea reminded me that while we humans have learned a lot about this world of ours, there is still so much to learn and see and

enjoy.

A fabulous read that I thoroughly enjoyed. I can heartily recommend this book to those who enjoy stories about life and what it means to be truly free.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

3.5 stars

This was such an interesting book, not quite like anything I've ever read before. The whole incorporation of dolphins and sea life was just awesome. When I was little I wanted to be a marine biologist because I wanted to work with dolphins. For some reason dolphins seem to hold an attraction for most people. There is a certain draw to them and I love how this book captured that attraction and blossomed it into this amazing tale.

I loved the Bermuda setting. It's mystical and fits perfectly with the whole dolphin thing. The ocean holds such wonders and adventures and Bibi and Michael each have their own share of them. Michael's adventures will take you all through the ocean while he encounters sharks, whales and all kinds of ocean life. Bibi's adventures focus mainly on land while she tries to find a way to get Michael back home. Bibi and Michael will grow on you and by the end you will be rooting for them, fully invested in their stories.

The Storm Bottle is more of a juvenile fiction book but definitely has a cross over appeal to all people. My only gripe with the book is the mild swearing and profanity. I realize this is a personal preference and not everyone is bugged by this. But, I am. If I could remove the mild swearing and profanity, it would be a book I would one hundred percent recommend to anyone because I really enjoyed it. (thus the 3.5 stars instead of 4 from me)

Saba N Taylor says

When I first started this book, I thought, oh no, I'm not going to be able to finish this book. The first chapter or so was a bit slow. Then, it happened. Nick Green introduced me to a whole new world under the sea!

The story follows the adventure of two siblings, Michael and his step-sister, Bibi. It is told from two points of views, Bibi's and Michael's. I normally don't like it when a story has multiple POV's but the author did a really good job with keeping it simple and easy to follow.

On a boating trip, Michael gets his consciousness swapped with that of a dolphin's. The author did a great job in my opinion with creating a very interesting dolphin society. Loved the Bermuda mystery and history from the dolphins and sea life perspective. I adored most of the characters, though, I have to say, I did not really care for Bibi :/ I can't quite put my finger on it, but her character did not wow me at all. But Michael, Rodrigo, the Privateers, even the mean dolphin bullies were intriguing.

In short, this was a fantastic read with great world-building, interesting characters, wonderfully crafted plot and lots of suspense :D

