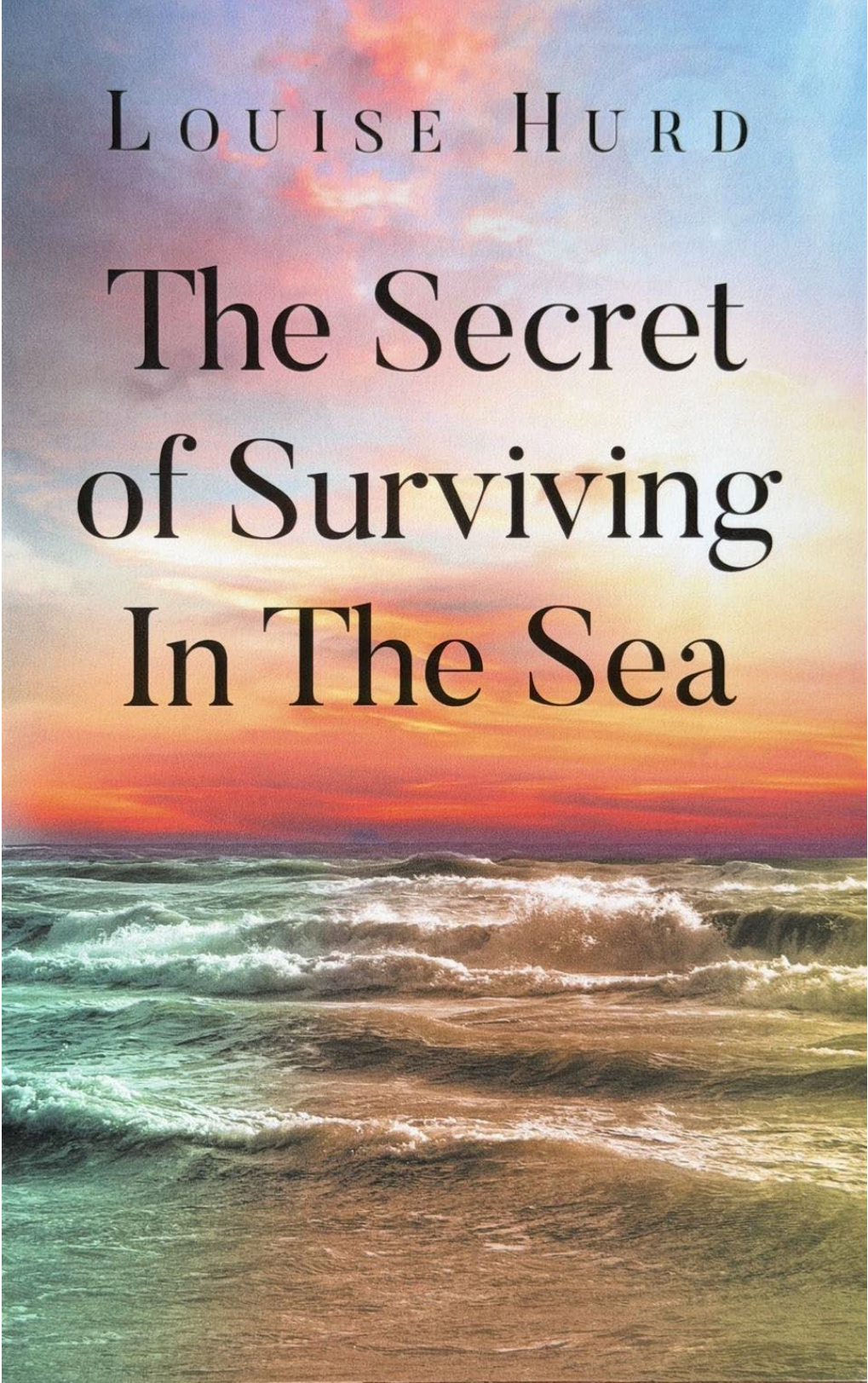


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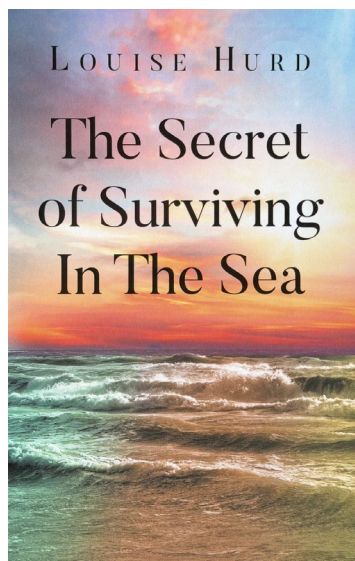


LOUISE HURD

The Secret of Surviving In The Sea

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The Book



The Secret of Surviving In The Sea

AUTHOR Louise Hurd

PUBLISHER Newman Springs Publishing, Inc.

DISTRIBUTOR Ingram

PUBLICATION Feb. 13, 2025

LENGTH 242 pages

TRIM SIZE 6 x 0.55 x 9 inches

RETAIL PRICE \$19.95 paperback, \$9.99 ebook

PAPERBACK ISBN 979-889308572-3

DIGITAL ISBN 979-889308573-0

KINDLE ASIN B0F2NC7R7V

BISAC Codes FIC044000, FIC019000, FIC141000

Book Description

Adam Balthazar Castleton is an orphan raised in a foster home in Wisconsin, learning through trial and error to navigate a difficult life. Clever and mischievous, he perseveres before suddenly learning the shocking truth about himself.

Tracy Jane Crocker is a quiet, free-spirited teen raised in a middle-class family in Utah. At sixteen, she fights for her life in the sea, learning that she can survive trauma and the turbulent waves that may beset her.

When the two meet, their lives and the lives they touch are changed forever. As tumultuous as the sea, their story is filled with joy, unexpected highs and lows, tragedy, pain, grief, and eventual healing. Ultimately, this is a story about love.

Positioning

A character-driven, multigenerational novel exploring what happens when love, identity, and belonging are tested by trauma, grief, and unexpected change. The sea becomes both setting and metaphor: turbulent, unpredictable, and survivable.

Story, Themes & Audience

Media-Ready Summary

When your identity is defined by love, where do you find yourself when a piece of that love is lost?

In a mid-century saga unfolding across four decades, *The Secret of Surviving in The Sea* is a multigenerational story about grief, survival, and the ways love continues to shape a life that persists after loss. Through five interconnected people bound together by devotion, longing, and the struggle to endure, the novel explores how passion survives change, absence, and death.

The story begins with Adam, a man shaped by early loss and a private wound that follows him throughout his life. Adam accepts the life God has given him with grace, until he meets Tracy, with whom he finally finds a sense of home and completion. Tracy's quiet endurance and capacity for love become the emotional heart of the story. Around them are Tom, Diana, and Addie, each carrying their own complicated loyalties, griefs, and forms of survival.

Love outlives the body. *The Secret of Surviving in The Sea* follows the ways these people hold onto one another and adapt through devastation, memory, and the relentless tides and drifts of inevitable change.

Why It Works for Libraries, Bookstores & Book Clubs

- Emotionally rich themes that invite discussion about love, grief, resilience, and identity
- Interconnected characters and relationships that encourage multiple points of view
- A multigenerational scope with strong human-interest appeal
- An author available for reader engagement and community programming

Book Club Conversation Starters

- Which character did you understand most deeply—and did that change as the story unfolded?
- Who do you think *The Secret of Surviving in The Sea* is really about?
- Which themes stayed with you after finishing the book?
- How do the relationships between Tom and Tracy, and Adam and Diana, differ?
- Did the ending leave you hopeful, heartbroken, or both?
- What do you think is the “secret” of surviving the sea?

CORE THEMES

- Love, grief & healing
- Identity & belonging
- Resilience after trauma
- Friendship & loyalty
- Family, memory & faith
- Survival as metaphor

IDEAL READERS

Readers who enjoy emotionally layered, character-driven fiction; multigenerational stories; relationship-centered narratives; and novels exploring grief, resilience, love, and healing.

Strong Media Angles

- Returning to a lifelong creative calling after years away from writing.
- How love, caregiving, grief, and loss can deepen a writer’s emotional perspective.
- The sea as a metaphor for uncertainty, endurance, and survival.
- Writing complicated relationships without reducing characters to heroes or villains.
- Creating a story that spans generations and decades while staying emotionally intimate.

COMPARABLE TITLES

Hello Beautiful by Anne Napolitano

Ask Me Again, Yes by Mary Beth Keane

This Is How It Always Is by Laurie Frankel

Ordering & Media Contact

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Meet Louise Hurd



AUTHOR BIO

Louise Hurd has lived a life rich with experience: falling in love, raising five children, traveling the world with her husband, caring for him through ten years of declining physical health, losing him unexpectedly, and surviving the surreal experience of losing her home in a fire.

She sold her first short story to Teen Magazine at age 26 and continued writing seriously while raising her family. Her short stories and poems have been published, and she has received numerous writing awards, many through the League of Utah Writers. She also served one year as president of the organization.

After circumstances took her away from writing for a period of time, Louise returned to the work she had always wanted to do: writing novels. *The Secret of Surviving In The Sea* is her first published book.

The Secret of Surviving In The Sea won first place in the published novel category in the 2025 League of Utah Writers contest.

That same year **Louise won another first place** in the Utah Division of Art & Museums and SLCC's (Salt Lake Community College) Community Writing Center, in the unpublished children's book category, with her book titled *The Summer of Grandma's Dolls*.

Author Highlights

- Sold her first short story to Teen Magazine at age 26
- Published short stories and poetry
- Recipient of numerous writing awards
- Former president of the League of Utah Writers
- Mother of five and longtime writer

Interviews & Appearances

Louise's personal journey and the themes of her novel offer strong material for podcasts, radio, print features, book clubs, libraries, literary organizations, classrooms and community events.

Suggested Interview Topics

- Why Louise returned to novel writing after years away from the craft
- How lived experiences of love, caregiving, grief, and loss inform her perspective as a writer
- Why the sea became a powerful metaphor for survival
- Writing emotionally complex relationships with compassion and nuance
- What it means to survive—and continue loving—after life changes unexpectedly
- Building a multigenerational story across four decades

Sample Interview Questions

- What does the title mean to you?
- Which character arrived first, and how did the others grow around that character?
- How did your own life experiences shape the emotional truths in the novel?
- Why was it important to explore grief alongside humor, love, and hope?
- What do you hope readers carry with them after the final page?

Potential Programs

- Author talks & Q&A
- Book club discussions
- Writing workshops
- Community presentations
- Virtual events

Louise would love to meet in person in the Salt Lake City to Logan areas.

Outside of the travel area Louise will do Zoom, Q & A's, etc.

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Email: media@louisehurdwords.com

Social Media Links

<https://www.instagram.com/louisehurdwords?igsi=>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1EpmbokurX/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/54995152.Louise_Hurd

Media Assets

louisehurdwords.com/media

- Media kit (book description, author bio, interview and book club suggestions, contact info, etc)
- High-resolution author portrait
- High-resolution book cover
- Reader Reviews
- United States and international purchase links
- Ready to use book club discussion handout
- Interviews with Louise Hurd
- Editable event flyer
- Printable Book Mark
- Book Club discussion brochure