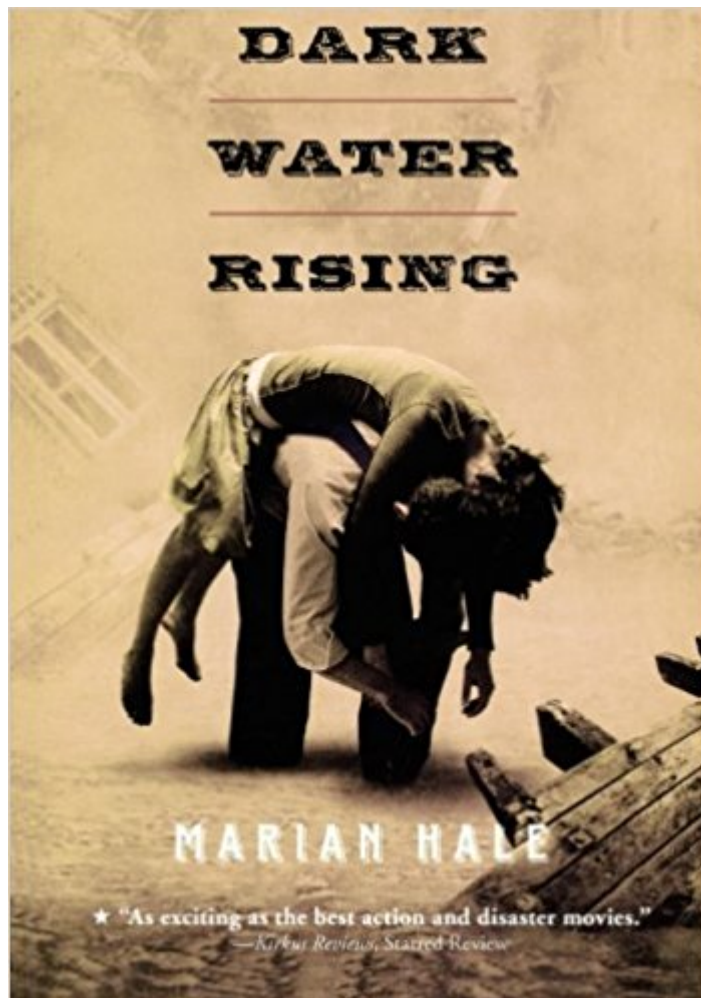




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# Dark Water Rising



## Synopsis

I looked and saw water rushing in from Galveston Bay on one side and from the gulf on the other. The two seas met in the middle of Broadway, swirling over the wooden paving blocks, and I couldn't help but shudder at the sight. All of Galveston appeared to be under water. Galveston, Texas, may be the booming city of the brand-new twentieth century, but to Seth, it is the end of a dream. He longs to be a carpenter like his father, but his family has moved to Galveston so he can go to a good school. Still, the last few weeks of summer might not be so bad. Seth has a real job as a builder and the beach is within walking distance. Things seem to be looking up, until a storm warning is raised one sweltering afternoon. No one could have imagined anything like this. Giant walls of water crash in from the sea. Shingles and bricks are deadly missiles flying through the air. People not hit by flying debris are swept away by rushing water. Forget the future, Seth and his family will be lucky to survive the next twenty-four hours. *Dark Water Rising* is a 2007 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

## Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; 9.12.2010 edition (October 12, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312629087

ISBN-13: 978-0312629083

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 63 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #39,577 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in [Books > Teens >](#)

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 6 Up  
Seth's family has just moved to Galveston, TX, and the 17-year-old is discontented with his life. His mother makes him look after his little sister, his younger brothers are completely annoying, and his father wants him to go to college rather than let him follow his dream of being a carpenter. Still, things get off to a pretty good start. His uncle finds him a summer job as a carpenter's helper, he meets a girl he likes, and Galveston is a fun place to live. However, on September 8, 1900, everything changes when a deadly storm devastates the area. This

coming-of-age story describes how Seth struggles to reach safety, works for his own survival and that of others, and comes to terms with change and loss. Readers feel his concern over his loved ones during the horrifying hours when no one knows who has survived. Through his eyes, they see the destruction caused by one of the worst storms in U.S. history. Hale has captured well the essence of this natural disaster by using numerous personal accounts and journals and molding them into Seth's narrative. Fact and fiction are blended effortlessly together in an exciting read that leaves readers with a sense of hope. An author's note includes photos of the hurricane's aftermath. -- Janet Hilbun, Texas Woman's University, Denton Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

In early September 1900, the booming town of Galveston, Texas, was nearly obliterated by a storm that is now credited with killing nearly 8,000 inhabitants. Hale's novel brings the drama and post-traumatic stress of the storm to life and also paints a vivid picture of the city before the tragedy. Sixteen-year-old Seth is a newcomer to Galveston. He would like to pursue his father's trade, master carpenter, but his family has relocated to Galveston to give Seth and his siblings an opportunity for higher education. Hale makes clear the tension such family expectations create for Seth, and through Seth's eyes, gives readers a glimpse of race relations at the time as Seth works on a construction job with an African American youth. The subplots fit smoothly within the overarching story of the horrific storm and the difficulties of recovering both physically and emotionally from its devastation. Character development is as vital here as the historical facts, and because the pace is quick and descriptions are sharp and focused, the book will draw even reluctant readers. With some romance, a few appropriately grisly moments, and a very credible protagonist, this fine example of historical fiction has something for almost everyone. Francisca Goldsmith Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Okay, I love this book for what it could be, not for what it was. The 12 to 13 year old kids I have read it with groaned. She does wonderful research. Has a great set of characters. The book just goes on and on and on. I thought at first if it was shorter I would have been able to "sell it" to my students better. When my daughter had it assigned as summer reading, we both decided the issue was being written in first person. He just got to feeling slow, drawling, and whiny. And I hate to say it. But my daughter has been hoping his four year old sister will die. I get that. I was a bit mad when

(Spoiler alert) it felt like there was foreshadowing of her death when Katie was playing with the Vedders funeral stuff --- I kept thinking WHAT??? NONE of his siblings die? Are you kidding me?! can give it three stars because of her afterwards. My 13year old would give it one. I still argue, had it been in third person, this would have won NUMEROUS awards.

Read this with my son for school...and I enjoyed it more than he. Historical fiction with great authors note at the end about the real history and research. Very enjoyable and enlightening.

My son loved it.

My 7th grade step son was asked to read the first ten chapters of this book over spring break for his Texas History class. In order to keep him motivated, I agreed to read it too and I am glad that I did. The book was very good. Knowing it was based on a true story, made it even better. I live near Galveston and have heard stories about the big flood all my life. The book made the stories come to life. It was a story of sadness, struggles and triumphs. Made me appreciate the little I have even more. Plus it actually sparked my step sons interest in Texas History. We read the whole book.....not just ten chapters. Finding out that the arthur lives in Rockport was pretty neat too! My parents live there and I visit often. Maybe I'll meet her one day.

I downloaded this book to read on the Kindle Fire, and on my computer for a realistic/fiction book for a college class. It was easy to read and I read it in a couple of days. It is for older children who are not going to get creeped out by some descriptions of dead bodies and what not, and it deals with death in a mature way, but not in a gory manner. It is based on actual events of the flood in Galveston, Texas back in the 1900's. This was my first knowledge of that disaster and this book intrigued me to look up more (although some research was for my class, some was for my own interest). The book is written from the view of a 16 year old boy, for what its worth. Some people didn't like the story line or whatever, but as an adult, I think this book would be good for a young teen or older child that likes to read and about realistic fiction.

Needed it for my daughter's 7th grade summer reading. She enjoyed it.

Great product and shipping. A tough book for a 7th grader to read, but if you are home-schooling, like me, you can easily relate this to Katrina, Ike, Sandy, etc. We are originally from Texas, and

there is a GREAT museum in Galveston about this storm. Go there if you can and make history come alive for your kids/students.

We ordered this for my kindle app for my daughter to use on homework. She got what she needed but the page numbers on the kindle app don't correspond with the page numbers on the paper book.

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