



Aquicorn Cove

Katie O'Neill

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When Lana and her father return to their seaside hometown to help clear the debris of a storm, the last thing she expects is to discover a colony of Aquicorns—magical seahorse-like residents of the coral reef. As she explores the damaged town and the fabled undersea palace, Lana learns that while she cannot always count on adults to be the guardians she needs, she herself is capable of finding the strength to protect both the ocean, and her own happiness.

Aquicorn Cove Details

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Author : Katie O'Neill

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From Reader Review Aquicorn Cove for online ebook

Noura Khalid (theperksofbeingnoura) says

Thank you Netgalley and Oni Press for sending a review copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

This graphic novel was so adorable! I loved Katie O'Neill's art and the story was lovely. The environmental message got across very well. Loved all the illustrations, and I can't wait for this book to be released!

Dani - Perspective of a Writer says

*Check out more **manga and graphic novel reviews** @ [Perspective of a Writer...](#)*

When her seaside town is damaged in a storm Lana and her father help to clear the debris and she discovers a colony of Aquicorns, magical seahorses that are residents of the coral reef. As she learns of the effect her town has on these sea creatures she decides to take responsibility for protecting the ocean and her friends.

I have enjoyed Katie O'Neill in the past and instantly recognized her trademark art style in Aquicorn Cove. I ADORE the way she illustrates fantasy creatures and the aquicorns are no different! They are the perfect pairing of unicorn and seahorse... She is able to twine how we feel about these creatures in her art with all the awe and love we feel for each one of them. Sea horses have always been a sea creature that I have felt so much awe for... to pair it with a unicorn is absolutely divine!

Lana's story is one of loss, awe, and social responsibility. I love the relationship she has with her father and aunt. Things aren't perfect, and the town isn't cruel, but they are having a negative impact on the ocean that supports them. If only the ocean had secret protectors will to work with humans! But since they don't WE need to be those protectors and the best ones to put on the job are the middle grade readers who are perfect for Aquicorn Cove!

I used to live right on the coast and I felt like Katie's art and Lana's story perfectly captured what it means to live a seaside life! Even though I live in a dusty hot place now I used to want to be an oceanographer because of the beautiful tidepools by my home. Then layered on top of that perfect setting is this story of responsibility and loss. Because Lana knows loss she knows that there is a need for a protector of these creatures. That is a message that every middle grade child can learn...

To be frank I didn't feel a whit of tension in this story. You could feel Lana's gentle caring for the aquicorns and that her compassion had been engaged. Everything happened quite easily and without much conflict. I don't necessarily think that was a negative. There is a lesson to be learned here and Lana provides us a way to connect for the sake of Aquicorn Cove...

Aquicorn Cove is a gorgeous story of environmental responsibility and the little girl who became a protector because she knows loss. This is a perfect little volume to engage middle school children in a cause that is important for their future!

???? Authenticity

? ? ??? Tension

? ? ??? Plot

???? Art

Thanks to Netgalley and the publisher for providing me with a copy in exchange for an honest review. It has not influenced my opinions.

You can find this review and many others on my book blog @ Perspective of a Writer. See my manga and graphic novel reviews in a special feature called Saturday Morning Cartoons...

Melanie says

ARC provided by Oni Press in exchange for an honest review.

“But there’s no home without a future...”

I just want to say that Katie O'Neill has the most breathtaking, most gorgeous, and most adorable illustrations out there right now. Each page is literally a brand-new work of art. Never have I ever loved the illustrations in anything as much as I do in this and in *The Tea Dragon Society*!

Aquicorn Cove stars a young girl named Lana, and she and her father come to visit her Auntie Mae on her little island. Lana is grieving the loss of her mother, but feels happier in her hometown, before Lana was forced to move to the city with her father. And the village is rebuilding after a disaster has struck. But Lana is more than happy to help. But when she goes to the water, she finds a little seahorse-like friend, who is in need of her help!

We also get to see Auntie Mae's journey below the water, where the Aquicorns live! And Aunt Mae and their leader, Aure, strike up the most heart-warming f/f relationship. But we also get to see firsthand how important it is to keep our waters clean and that we need to respect coral reefs and underwater ecosystems.

Every book I've read by Katie has also has such an important and powerful message. *Aquicorn Cove* is about conservation and how the actions we take on land are impacting our waters. How overfishing, climate change, and polluting is hurting these water sources, and if we don't change our actions then the results are going to be more and more severe. This is a book that really focuses on the delicate balance we have with all living things, and how we have to respect and protect each other to keep the cycle going. We all have to be responsible for our carbon footprint, or nothing will be safe; land or sea.

“Children don't deserve to lose their home with the sea.”

Overall, I loved this more than words. Some of these panels were able to evoke such an emotional response

from me. I shed so many tears, but also grinned so many smiles. I truly think Katie O'Neill is doing so much good in the world, and I wish I could put her work in everyone's hands. Beautiful and breathtaking illustrations, empowering and important messages, and characters that I wish I had growing up. I hope you all pick this up and fall in love, too!

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The quotes above were taken from an ARC and are subject to change upon publication.

Mavence says

Streaked in pastel shades and heartwarming messages, Aquicorn Cove is a cute and light graphic novel yet imparts a relevant message on protecting the marine life. We follow a young Lana that helps her aunt's little island after it was ravaged by a storm. She reminisces on her days near the ocean when she was younger and consequently tries to get past the grief over her mother's death. And it was until when she nursed a young and injured aquicorn that she finally realized the random chain of events holds a deeper meaning for the little island.

Aquicorn Cove may be full of cliches but as an MG book, I think this delivers the message to a younger audience effectively. I really love the neat flat pastel colors, it really gives off a heartwarming vibe that a reader will definitely sense especially in the ending. Also, the cove really is beautiful! I recommend this to MG readers, especially to kids.

Alison says

4.5 stars

Really lovely story about finding yourself after loss, caring for others, and how global warming is affecting the coral reef.

Hints at a f/f romance

Nat says

Not only does this book feature mind-bending gorgeous works of art, it holds so much meaning in its pages. Usually, books that evoke such truly beautiful pieces tend to not have an exciting storyline to tag along, but this is where **Aquicorn Cove** comes in to shake up the status quo.

When Lana and her father return to their seaside hometown to help clear the debris of a big storm, Lana remembers how much she's missed the ocean—and the strong, reassuring presence

of her aunt. As Lana explores the familiar beach, she discovers something incredible: a colony of Aquicorns, small magical seahorse-like creatures that live in the coral reef. Lana rescues an injured Aquicorn and cares for it with the help of her aunt, who may know more about these strange creatures than she's willing to admit. But when a second storm threatens to reach the town, choices made many years ago about how to coexist with the sea start to rise to the surface. Lana realizes she will need to find the strength to stand on her own, even when it means standing up to the people who she has always relied on to protect her.

I was already keen on the premise alone, courtesy my unshakeable love for the ocean, but the fact that **Aquicorn Cove** also addressed the harms in fishing ocean creatures and the dangers of plastic had me practically cheering out loud. WHOO!!

This is one of those reviews where words needn't be written because the art speaks for itself. I mean:

This stilled my mind from all racing thoughts.

The beauty and power of that first panel stopped me cold, for some reason.

I zoomed through this short read without even trying because IT'S JUST THAT GOOD.

One last thing: **Aquicorn Cove** knows how to evoke real emotions, make characters feel completely real, and seamlessly captures intricate details that had a calming effect on me.

ARC kindly provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Publication Date: October 16, 2018

Note: I'm an Amazon Affiliate. If you're interested in buying Aquicorn Cove, just click on the image below to go through my link. I'll make a small commission!

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This review and more can be found on my blog.

? Garima ? says

This is cute little story of a girl who lost her mother recently and trying to cope. There are some heart-touching moments but the book is light enough to get going. Illustrations are really beautiful and story flows naturally.

There is hint of lesbian romance between Lana's aunt and sea-goddess which I think was nice touch as well...

April (Aprilius Maximus) says

THIS WAS SO BEAUTIFUL THE ART IS EVERYTHING!!! THE COLOURS!!!!!! Beautiful message to always look after the environment and there was a cute lil f/f romance implied! GORGEOUS.

Emma says

Thank you to Netgalley for providing me with a copy of this graphic novel in exchange for an honest review.

This story was so cute. I was pleasantly surprised by the focus put on the environmental aspect, it was quite well done and it got the message across. The style of the author is really lovely and I enjoyed all the illustrations, especially the ones regarding the sea colony.

I'm really happy to have discovered this new author and I can't wait to read more of her books.

C.G. Drews says

This was just ADORABLY AMAZING. I am absolutely and entirely heart-eyes right now from how gorgeous the illustrations were, to the sweet and wholesome messages, to how many feels it gave me. Like...it's barely 100 pages and it's a soft gentle fantasy for kids and I...have...so many feelings. ??Seriously pick this one up if you get a chance omg.

? cutest illustrations ever

? seriously Lana is ADORABLE

? talks about caring for the sea and the reefs

? soft™ magical sea creatures

? entirely sure Aure (the sea goddess) and Aunt Mae are in love ok
? everyone is poc
? Lana is so smol and sad but still spreads love
? it is wholesome and sweet
? New Zealand author!
? I looooooved it so much

ALEXA says

Aquicorn Cove was delightful! Lovely illustration style, excellent story, and I enjoyed every minute of it.

Isa Cantos (Crónicas de una Merodeadora) says

Aquicorn Cove es una novela gráfica muy tierna y con un mensaje ecológico súper fuerte sobre el uso y la explotación sin límite que le damos los humanos a los recursos naturales. Toda la historia está teñida de un toque fantástico, de seres mitológicos acuáticos y, además, de amor sin importar absolutamente nada más.

Helena Summers says

I don't know why, but I was expecting an adventure story about a girl and aquicorns, so I was pleasantly surprised when I found out it was not the case at all. It was a quiet story about loss, taking care of nature and family. It was like the warm hug I didn't know I needed, one of these stories that just make you feel happy and relaxed for a while. It was the equivalent of drinking hot chocolate in a winter rainy day covered by your soft blanket.

The art was adorable and magical, with pastel colours and soft lines that made me feel very peaceful, kinda like the feeling I get when watching a Ghibli movie. The story was so sweet, and I loved how the diversity was just there and they didn't make a big deal out of it - different body types, the cutest sapphic relationship, and everything portrayed in a positive way. I know a lot of my friends would love this comic, so I can't wait for it to be released and buy it.

Nina says

Thanks again to Oni Press for sending me a copy of this book via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review!

This was such a cute read and the art was amazing! I especially loved how it dealt with an important topic such as climate change and how the message was that we definitely have to pay more attention to our environment and have to take care of our oceans and that even small things can already make a big difference.

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Whitney Atkinson says

Thanks to Netgalley for providing an e-arc in exchange for my honest review!

This book was beyond precious!! It's like a Disney movie in a graphic novel because of its lighthearted, magical vibe yet undertones of sorrow and meaning. There's loss, there's reunion, there's messages about environmentalism, there's mythical creatures, and there's even a subtle f/f romance. The art was so gorgeous and this book was very easy to follow and a quick read that definitely got me teary-eyed. I can't wait to get a copy of this for my shelf!
