

Song Beneath the Tides

Author: Beverley Birch

Age: 12 + Genre: Fiction - adventure and mystery



This is the book for you if you like ...

- Thrilling adventures in a stunning setting.
- Finding out about history and culture.
- Past and present narratives intertwining.
- Haunting and heartbreaking tales.
- *The Lie Tree* by Frances Hardinge.
- *The Rest of the Story* by Sarah Dessen.



Summary: Love story, ghost story, thriller: Kisiri is a sacred island holding secrets from past and present. Ally arrives from England with her brothers to stay for a month in eastern Africa - weeks of running wild on an unspoilt coast. But on her first walk through the forest, she is swamped by the sense of a presence, ripples of an unseen life brushing hers. Then Leli, a local teenager, sweeps her into the world of his village and he swiftly becomes the centre of her life. Perhaps together they can solve the mystery of Kisiri and save Leli's community from destruction.

Extract: *She's reluctant to probe the forest with her voice.*

She walks faster. And at once she has the same unnerving sensation of nearness, of brushing the warm contours of something live, of eyes following her, of a soft breath exhaled.

This time she runs, breaking through the last trees into the blinding brilliance of the open bay. She clears the mounds of drying seaweed in a single bound, kicks off her shoes, grabs them and leaps down through the soft powdery sand towards the reef, putting distance as fast as she can between herself and that menace – that terror of the forest.

(Page 4)

ATMOSPHERIC - GRIPPING - VIVID