

The Billow Maiden

Author: James Dixon
Illustrator: Tamsin Rosewell

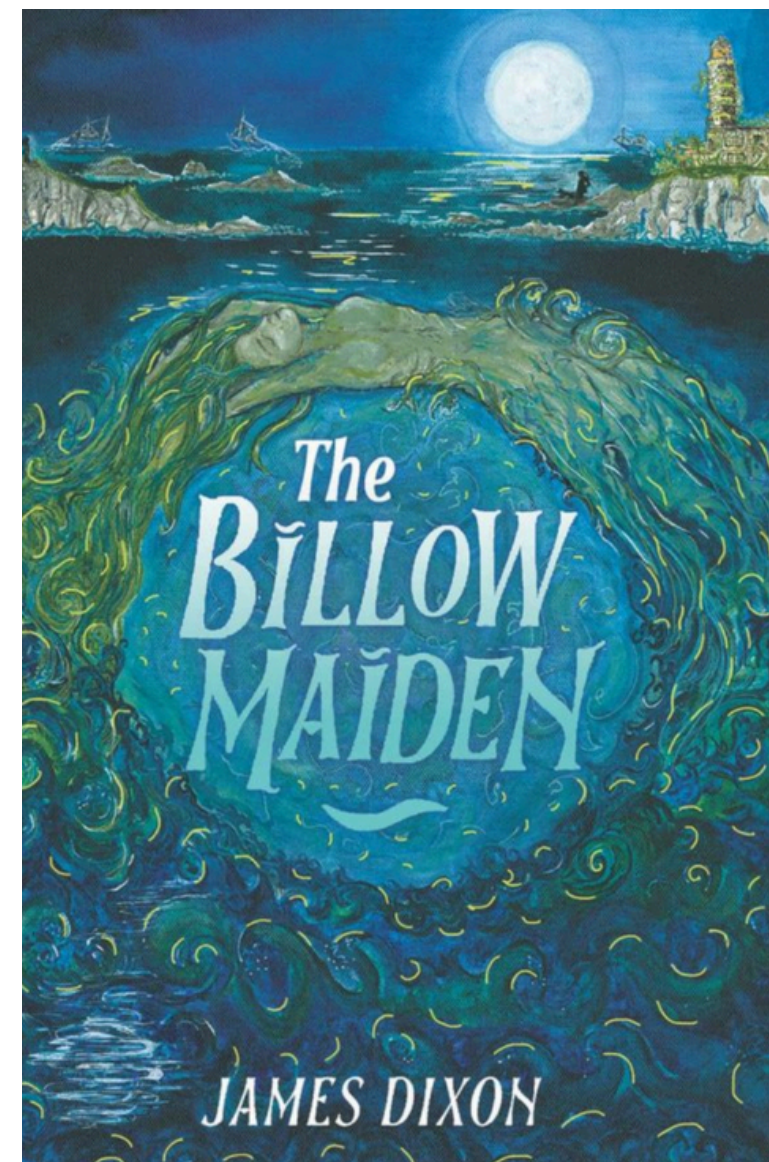
Age: 9+

Genre: Fiction - mythology, family life



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

- Norse mythology.
- Reading about summer adventures.
- Unlikely friendships.
- *River Boy* by Tim Bowler.
- *October, October* by Katya Balen.
- *Skellig* by David Almond.



Summary: When Ailsa's mum becomes ill again, the two of them spend the summer with her Uncle Nod on a remote Scottish island. Ailsa finds a mysterious cave on the beach and a strange, magical woman who needs help. It's up to Ailsa and her new friend Camilla to save the curious woman.

Extract: *The strange woman was lying half in a rock pool at the cave's far end, with her legs and lower torso submerged. Her head was down, limp against her bare chest. She was covered in slimy, wet greenery and a few dead shells. Ailsa passed her torchlight over her and saw that her skin was grey and pallid. Open sores puckered along her arms, chest and shoulders. Straggly, matted hair fell in tight ropes over her chest.*

It looked to Ailsa as though the sea had spat her up and forgotten about her. She thought she was dead at first.

(Pages 14/15)

MYSTERIOUS - EVOCATIVE - HOPEFUL