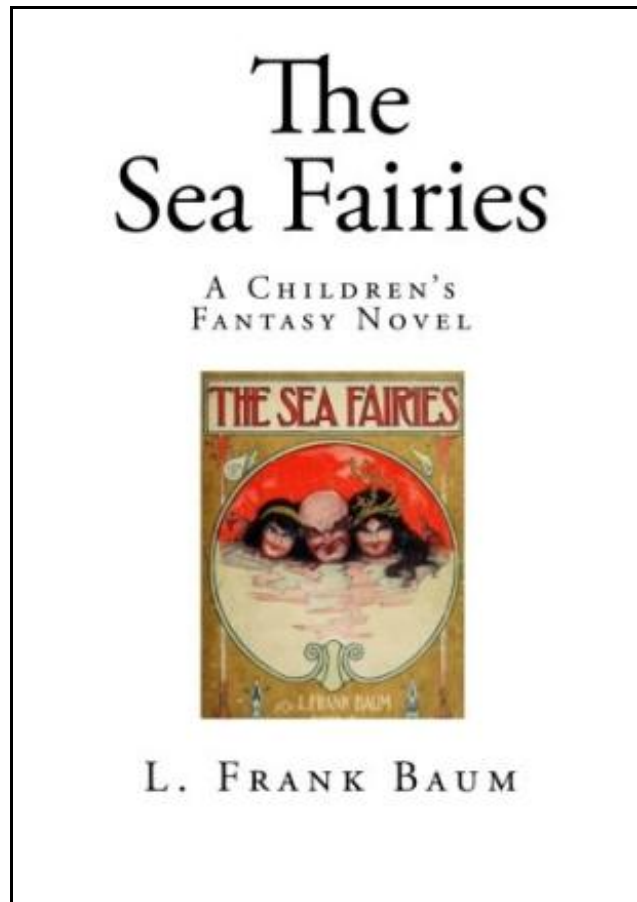# The Sea Fairies: A Children s Fantasy Novel

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THE SEA FAIRIES: A CHILDREN S FANTASY NOVEL

Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Sea Fairies is a children s fantasy novel written by L. Frank Baum, illustrated by John R. Neill, and published in 1911 by the Reilly Britton Company, the publisher of Baum s series of Oz books. Baum dedicated the book to the otherwise-unknown Judith of Randolph, Massachusetts - most likely one of the child readers who corresponded with the author. As an underwater fantasy, Baum s The Sea Fairies can be classed with earlier books with similar themes, like Charles Kingsley s The Water-Babies (1863), and successors too, like E. Nesbit s Wet Magic (1913). Baum s novel has no relation to the 1830 poem of the same name by Alfred, Lord Tennyson. In 1905, however, a musical setting of Tennyson s poem for female chorus and orchestra, composed by Amy Beach, was in performance; the title may have stuck in the back of Baum s mind. Mayre Griffiths, nicknamed Trot, or sometimes Tiny Trot, is a little girl who lives on the coast of southern California. Her father is the captain of a sailing schooner, and her constant companion is Cap n Bill Weedles, a retired sailor with a wooden leg. (Cap n Bill had been Trot s father s skipper, and Charlie Griffiths had been his mate, before the accident that took the older man s leg.) Trot and Cap n Bill spend many of their days roaming the beaches near home, or rowing and sailing along the coast. One day, Trot wishes that she could see a mermaid; her wish is overheard, and granted the next day. The mermaids explain to Trot, and the distressed Cap n Bill, that they are benevolent fairies; when...

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