



Søren Jessen



The Fish Girl

Fiskepiggen

An **IBBY Honour** nominee - an absolutely stunning graphic novel on the highly current subject of flooding and climate change - aimed at reading aloud for 10+ or reading alone for 12+.

Søren Jessen is an award-winning Danish author/illustrator of children's books and graphic novels.

SYNOPSIS

In a house on a hilltop, the autistic boy, Frede, and his older sister are home alone. A violent storm has hit their area and all land around them has been washed away by flooding, leaving their hilltop house on a small island in the sea. They are without electricity and light, waiting for their parents to find them.

Fred's sister does everything in her power to create an illusion that everything is normal – to protect her fragile younger brother. She plays with dinosaurs, makes a cozy camp underneath the dining table, bakes pancakes on the gas fire and tells a fairy tale of a girl who lives in the sea.

At the same time, she is worried and scared. Where are their parents? Will the water rise further? And how does she make the old generator in the outhouse work, so that she can create light and signal to the helicopter above that they are alive and waiting?

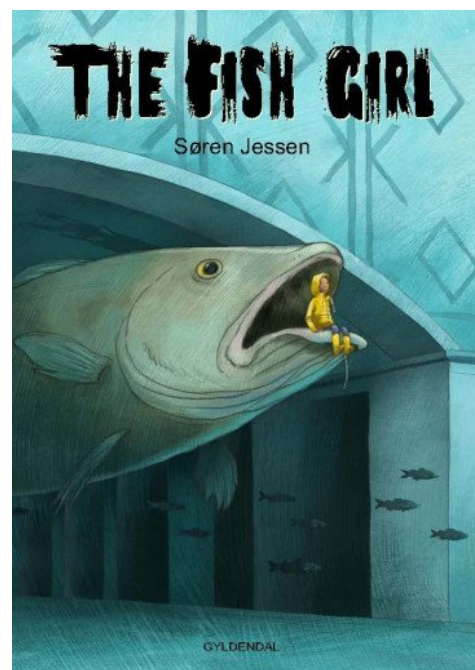
The book provides a beautiful and moving point of departure for a dialogue on climate change and on the importance of caring for each other when the going gets tough. There is a strong sense of hope and community in the story and the stunning illustrations provide a complete extra layer of meaning for this pearl of a story.

Check out the [IBBY Honour List Online Exhibition](#) [here](#).

REVIEWS

"An eerie, intensely well-wrought and -written novel (...) the way that Søren Jessen mixes text and images is simultaneously elegant and fiercely anchoring you in the present." – (Børn & Bøger (Children and Books magazine))

"The Fish Girl is an outstandingly beautiful publication, in which the illustrations – on land, in the ocean and in the air – contribute to a unique experience." – (Bogbotten.dk)



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Gyldendal*

Published: *March, 2020*

116 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *Graphic Novels*

Genre: *Realism*

Themes: *Environment, Courage, Family*

Available material: *English sample translation*

Territories Handled

World except: Chinese Complex, Chinese Simplified

