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**The Maggie Tales - Book One: Morgan and the Sneaker Wave**



**Written by Kristen Brigit Crusoe**

**Illustrated by Carol Vernon**

**Inkwater Press**

I recently became an aunt and was excited to review *The Maggie Tales - Book One: Morgan and the Sneaker Wave* with the hope in the back of my mind that it would be a book I would someday read to my niece. Morgan sneaks out during naptime to play with the butterflies at the beach. Unbeknownst to her, the “sneaker wave” is creeping up behind her and, suddenly, she is swept out to sea. Thanks to her friends and three dolphins, she gets back to shore safely and back to her room before her parents realize she’s gone. The take-home lesson (that seems inevitable in children’s books) for children is subtle, which is good.

Morgan has a number of friends: her dog Maggie, Tiger Cat, Suzi Blackbird, Bogart the Blackbird and more. It seemed like a bit too many characters introduced all at once. As a part of a series, I’m sure all these characters will recur, but it seemed like they could have been introduced a bit more slowly as the series progressed.

The illustrations are colorful and fun and complement the story. The main story is told through the actual words and narrative and that is why it seems to be aimed for slightly older children, around ages 4 to 7. Overall, the book seems good. It’s not amazing, but I’ll keep it around to read to my niece in a few years!

***Review by Kristin Conard***