

The little mermaid of the Mediterranean

Once upon a time, in the deep blue waters of the Mediterranean, lived a young mermaid called Marina. Her home was an underwater palace made of coral and pearls, where she lived happily with her family and friends.

Marina had a shimmering sea-green tail and a voice so beautiful that even the fish stopped to listen. Yet she had a dream she could never forget: she wanted to discover the world outside the water.

Every evening at sunset, she swam to the surface. She watched the golden beaches and passing ships, dreaming of walking among humans. She longed to feel warm sand beneath her feet and see the stars without a layer of water above her.

One evening, as she watched a party on a large ship, a storm began to gather. The sky darkened and the wind blew fiercely. Worried for the people aboard, Marina saw the ship struggling and swam towards it to help.

With her sea friends, she guided it to safety. During the rescue she noticed a young sailor called Marc, fighting to keep control of the ship. His courage captured her heart.

After the storm, Marc saw Marina in the water. Enchanted by her beauty and voice, he called to her. Before he could say anything more, she shyly dived into the dark sea.

From that day Marc searched for the mermaid who had saved his ship. Marina, who could not stop thinking about him either, made a wish to the stars each night: she wanted legs so that she could be with him.

Her friend, the spirit of the sea, heard her wishes and offered a bargain. She could turn Marina’s tail into legs for one day, on one condition: if Marc did not fall in love with her before sunset, she would return to the sea as a mermaid for ever.

Excited and nervous, Marina agreed. Once she had legs, she met Marc on the beach. He was delighted by her company, unaware that she was the mermaid from the storm. They spent the day laughing and sharing stories.

As the sun sank lower, Marina began to worry. But just before it disappeared, Marc said:

“I’m in love with you, whoever you are and wherever you come from.”

Those words fulfilled the bargain. Marina knew she could live with Marc on land and still visit her family in the sea whenever she wished.

Together they shared many adventures. Marina enjoyed the best of both worlds, always remembering the beauty beneath the waves and the warmth of dry land.