

Sophie can't ignore the lure of the sea. . . .

SHARON CREECH

WINNER OF THE NEWBERY MEDAL FOR *WALK TWO MOONS*



THE WANDERER





## THE SEA



SOPHIE

**T**he sea, the sea, the sea. It rolled and rolled and called to me. *Come in*, it said, *come in*.

And in I went, floating, rolling, splashing, swimming, and the sea called, *Come out*, *come out*, and further I went but always it swept me back to shore.

And still the sea called, *Come out*, *come out*, and in boats I went—in rowboats and dinghies and motorboats, and after I learned to sail, I flew over the water, with only the sounds of the wind and the water and the birds, all of them calling, *Sail on*, *sail on*.



And what I wanted to do was go on and on, across the sea, alone with the water and the wind and the birds, but some said I was too young and the sea was a dangerous temptress, and at night I dreamed a terrible dream. A wall of water, towering, black, crept up behind me and hovered over me and then down, down it came, but always I awoke before the water covered me, and always I felt as if I were floating when I woke up.



## THREE SIDES



SOPHIE

I am not always such a dreamy girl, listening to the sea calling me. My father calls me Three-sided Sophie: one side is dreamy and romantic; one is logical and down-to-earth; and the third side is hardheaded and impulsive. He says I am either in dreamland or earthland or mule-land, and if I ever get the three together, I'll be all set, though I wonder where I will be then. If I'm not in dreamland or earthland or mule-land, where will I be?

My father says my logical side is most like him, and the dreamy side most like my mother,



**"The sea, the sea, the sea. It rolled and rolled and called to me. Come in, it said, come in."**

Thirteen-year-old Sophie hears the sea calling, promising adventure and a chance for discovery as she sets sail for England with her three uncles and two cousins. Sophie's cousin Cody isn't sure he has the strength to prove himself to the crew and to his father. Through Sophie's and Cody's travel logs, we hear stories of the past and the daily challenges of surviving at sea as *The Wanderer* sails toward its destination—and its passengers search for their places in the world.

"A beautifully written and imaginatively constructed novel that speaks to the power of survival and the delicacy of grief."

—*School Library Journal* (starred review)

"Sophie is a quietly luminous heroine, and readers will rejoice in her voyage."

—*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*  
(starred review)

"Like Creech's WALK TWO MOONS and CHASING REDBIRD, this intimate novel poetically connects journey with self-discovery."

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

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Parents' Choice Gold Award

A *School Library Journal* Best Book

A *Booklist* Editors' Choice

*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* Blue Ribbon


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