

About *The Light in the Lake*

Twelve-year-old Addie knows she should stay away from Maple Lake. After all, her twin brother, Amos, drowned there only a few months ago. But its crisp, clear water runs in Addie's veins, and the notebook Amos left behind—filled with clues about a mysterious, magical creature that might live in the lake's inky-blue depths—keeps calling her back.

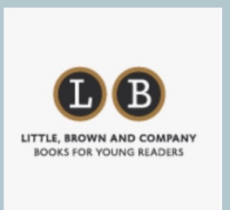
Unable to resist Maple Lake's secrets, Addie accepts a Young Scientist position studying the lake for the summer and enlists the lead researcher's son, Tai, to help her investigate the creature. As they track down Amos's clues, they also learn that Maple Lake is in trouble—and the source of the pollution might be close to home.

Addie finds herself caught between science and magic, family and nature, and grief and hope. Can she find a way forward while staying true to herself?



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Ages 8-12, Grades 3-7
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For fans of *The Thing About Jellyfish* and *Hello, Universe*, a timely STEM-focused story that balances science and touches of magic while exploring themes of grief and loss.



About the Author

Sarah R. Baughman taught middle and high school English in the United States, China, Bolivia, and Germany. After six years in rural Vermont, Sarah now lives with her husband and two children in her home state of Michigan, where she spends as much time as possible in the woods and water. *The Light in the Lake* is her first novel.

As a former teacher, Sarah enjoys collaborating with educators and interacting with readers of all ages. She is available for school visits, book talks and signings, and other literary events.

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Praise for *The Light in the Lake*

"*The Light in the Lake* radiates with heart and hope. As Addie's tender memories of her brother intertwine with the magic she uncovers in her town's beloved lake, we're led on a moving exploration of science, grief, and self-discovery. A poignant, lyrical story that tugs at the heartstrings."

MAE RESPICIO, award-winning author of *THE HOUSE THAT LOU BUILT*

"Told in prose as luminous as the mysterious creature Addie searches for, *The Light in the Lake* shines with heart, hope, and just a touch of magic."

CINDY BALDWIN, author of *WHERE THE WATERMELONS GROW*

"Drawing on the wonder of science and the power of magic, Baughman has crafted a story that plunges readers into the deep places of the heart. In *The Light in the Lake* she reminds us that not even the depths of loss can prevent the rise of light and discovery."

BETH HAUTALA, author of *WAITING FOR UNICORNS + THE OSTRICH & OTHER LOST THINGS*

"*The Light in the Lake* is a moving debut novel that skillfully balances magic and science, and loss and hope. Sarah Baughman has created a brave, smart protagonist readers are sure to connect with and root for in this her compelling debut read."

SUPRIYA KELKAR, award-winning author of *AHIMSA + AMERICAN AS PANEER PIE*

Classroom Connections

DISCUSSION TOPICS: Addie's project on Maple Lake can be used to spark discussion about STEM topics like the scientific method, environmentalism and responsibility, and the importance of women in scientific fields.

CROSS-CURRICULAR PLANNING: The novel's scientific focus makes it a natural fit for Language Arts and Science classes. Consider integrating it into a study of water quality and having students research how methods for keeping local bodies of water clean compare and contrast with what Addie learns.

CRAFT STUDY: Close reading activities can focus on how descriptive language and sensory detail are used to convey a distinctive setting, and how setting influences character development.

*Full Educational Guide available Summer 2019
on Sarah's website: www.sarahrbaughman.com*