












The Little Mermaid





The little mermaid  lives under the sea with her  father the Sea King 
And her  grandmother. She and her  sisters play all day with the fishes.

But, the little mermaid dreams of the sun  and the world above. 


When she turns fifteen, the little mermaid visits the surface for the first time.




She sees a party with lights and music on a ship; it's the  Prince's sixteenth birthday!





Later, a storm  destroys the ship and she saves the unconscious prince's life. 


At dawn, she brings him to shore  and watches as a girl  finds him and calls for help.

Her grandmother explains that human lives are short but they receive an immortal soul. 


Mermaids live  300 years but become seafoam, never to live again.

Longing for the prince and a soul, the mermaid visits the sea  witch with her water snakes! 

 A potion painfully changes her tail into legs  but she must sacrifice her voice. 

If the prince doesn't marry her, she will die  the morning after his wedding-with no immortal soul.

The prince discovers the now human mermaid on the palace sea steps;

She becomes his constant,  but silent, companion. Alas, he doesn't recognize her as




The one who saved his life, remembering only the girl from the shore.




Discovering that girl in the neighboring land, he plans to marry her! 





The mermaid's sisters obtain a magic knife from the sea witch.


If she slays  the prince with it, she becomes a mermaid again, 



but she cannot bring herself to kill him and she throws herself into the sea. 

Rather than dying, the little mermaid finds herself rising to the sun, 

Lifted by the daughters of the air. They live for 300  years performing good deeds

And then receive an immortal soul -Love has made her one of them! 



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