



**TITLE:**

**LA PETITE FILLE DU FLEUVE**

**AUTHOR:**

**BERTHIER PEARSON**

**ILLUSTRATIONS:**

**NADIA BERGHELLA**

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**Author:** Berthier Pearson was born and still lives in the small village of Matane. Since the age of twelve, his taste for literature made him discover a universe full of richness and fantasies. After teaching for more than 35 years at the secondary level Berthier retired and decided to write. He gets his inspiration from nature, his happy youth and from his numerous trips abroad; however he is mostly influenced by the confidence he received from his students. All of his manuscripts are inspired by real life experiences that he embellishes with dreams and poetry.

### **Story : (7 years and up):**

Every night, in his sleep, Jonathan has an unusual dream. He meets a little girl who invites him to surf a wave. But he does not know how to swim. The fear of water overwhelms him and he wakes up in a cold sweat. Fortunately, the young boy makes friends with an old fishermen, in whom he confides his secret.

Jonathan will conquer his fear and will find the courage to follow the little girl of the sea in the midst of the waves. The sea will reveal her magic and mysterious secrets. Young readers will be engrossed by the poetic and magic writing. A novel for readers seven years and up.

### **Excerpt:**

Jonathan dévale la pente abrupte jusqu'à la plage et s'arrête sur les galets encore mouillés par la marée. Il contemple le fleuve un long moment, puis respire l'air salin et l'odeur des algues. Un bonheur indescriptible l'envahit. Il est heureux, très heureux. Tout un mois devant lui pour s'amuser et observer les pêcheurs, les mouettes et les cormorans.

Dans le silence du matin, il choisit quelques cailloux et les lance sur l'eau calme. Après plusieurs essais, il parvient à les faire ricocher une dizaine de fois, avant que le fleuve les engouffre. Il ramasse ensuite quelques coquillages et se promène le long des quais.

Les pêcheurs s'affairent à nettoyer leur barque et à vider leurs filets. D'autres transportent des cannes à pêche et des caisses remplies de poissons frais. Tout bouillonne de vie. Le regard braqué sur la ligne d'horizon, le jeune visiteur cligne des yeux pour se protéger des bourrasques de vent. Il devine, sans en connaître vraiment la raison, que ses vacances seront inoubliables.