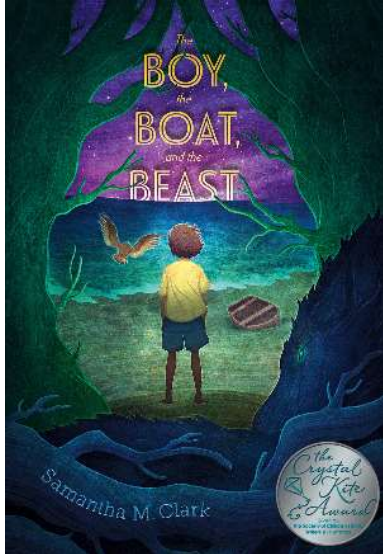


Media Kit: THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST by Samantha M Clark



- ~ Middle-grade contemporary fantasy fiction for ages 8 and up
- ~ Release date: June 26, 2018
- ~ Publisher: Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster
- ~ Cover: designed by Laurent Linn and illustrated by Justin Hernandez
- ~ ISBN: 9781534412552 (hardcover), 9781534412569 (paperback), 9781534412576 (ebook)
- ~ Translated into Italian, Turkish and Romanian
- ~ Topics: Courage, Insecurity, Fears

Description: *The Graveyard Book* meets *Hatchet*. A boy wakes up on a beach with no memory of who he is, where he is, or how he got there. All he knows is that every time he tries to leave, everything turns scary. When he sees a light shining over the trees that surround the beach, the boy thinks it could be his parents trying to find him, so he gathers up his courage and follows it. He goes on a journey to find answers to all his questions, but before he can get home, he'll have to face all his biggest fears.

Praise for THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST

* Winner of the SCBWI TX/OK Crystal Kite Award

“Lyrical and hauntingly beautiful, this is a story for everyone who’s had to learn to face their fears.”—Jennifer A. Nielsen, New York Times best-selling author of *The Traitor’s Game*

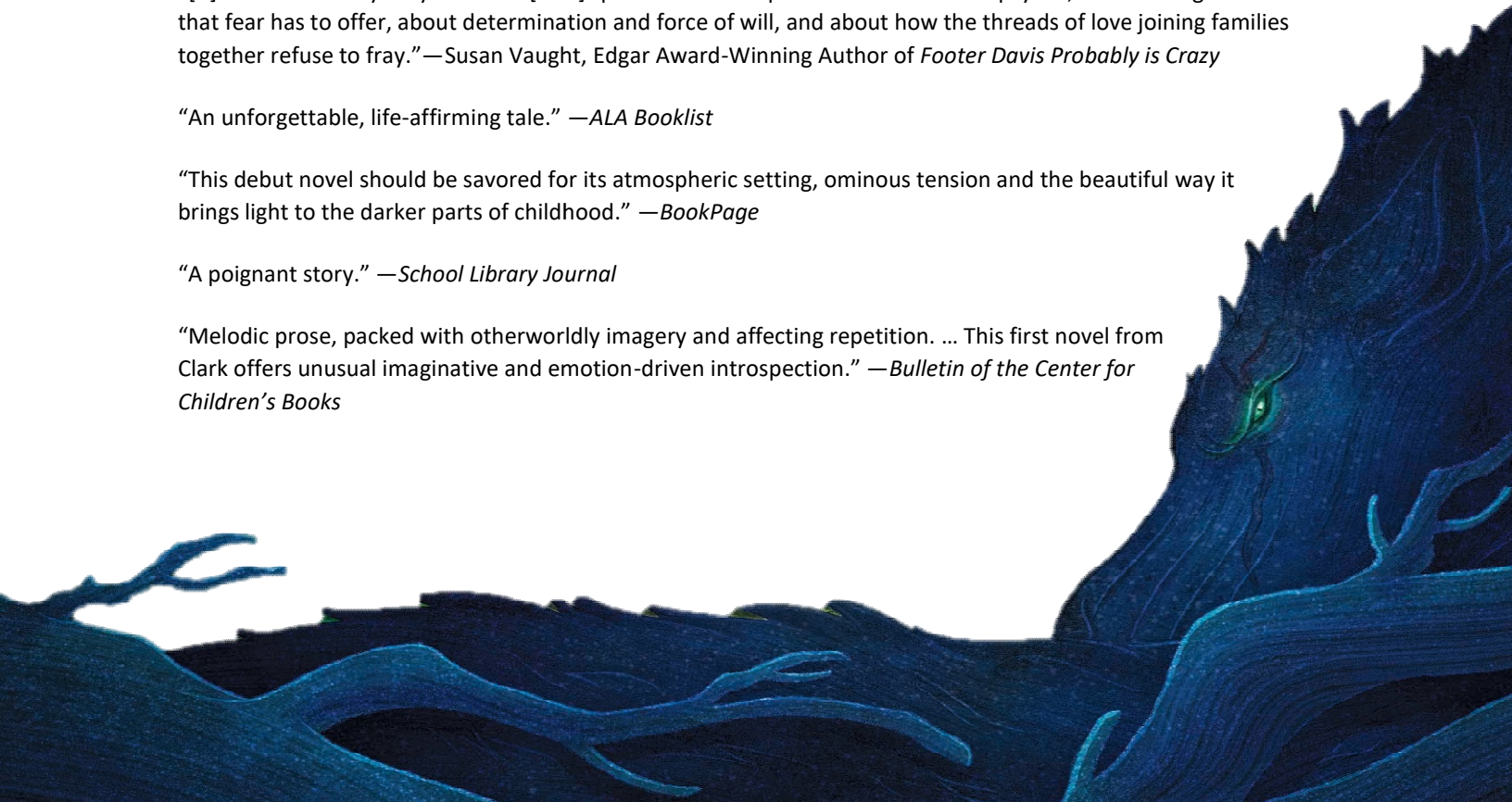
“[A] well-crafted mystery-thriller....[that] speaks to the deepest level of heart and psyche, about facing the worst that fear has to offer, about determination and force of will, and about how the threads of love joining families together refuse to fray.”—Susan Vaught, Edgar Award-Winning Author of *Footer Davis Probably is Crazy*

“An unforgettable, life-affirming tale.” —*ALA Booklist*

“This debut novel should be savored for its atmospheric setting, ominous tension and the beautiful way it brings light to the darker parts of childhood.” —*BookPage*

“A poignant story.” —*School Library Journal*

“Melodic prose, packed with otherworldly imagery and affecting repetition. ... This first novel from Clark offers unusual imaginative and emotion-driven introspection.” —*Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*



Author Bio

Samantha M Clark is the award-winning author of three middle-grade novels: *THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST* and *ARROW*, both published by Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster, and *AMERICAN HORSE TALES: HOLLYWOOD*, published by Penguin Workshop/ Penguin Random House. Samantha lives with her husband and two funny dogs in Austin, Texas, and is the Regional Advisor for the Austin chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators, where she mentors other writers.

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Author Notes About *THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST*

THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST is my debut novel and it'll always have a big place in my heart. Not only did the book help me on my career as a published author, it's also very personal.

In the book, the Boy is alone for most of his journey but he has a voice in his head that's not at all kind. This voice, which the Boy calls his Bully, tells the Boy he's going to fail, he's a coward, he's not worthy. Anyone who has ever battled with insecurities knows this voice well. I know this voice well. This voice has been inside my head since I was little. But writing this book and getting it published, helped me know that this voice is very wrong. I hope readers will discover the same thing.

I grew up in the Caribbean and parts of my life there are sprinkled inside this story, including sea grapes, sand crabs and iron shore. I've always been fascinated by the ocean, at once beautiful, calming, and dangerous. That intrigue was also a big inspiration for this book.

I've been absolutely thrilled and honored by the reception *THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST* has received. For the 10 years I wrote and revised the manuscript, the voice in my head kept telling me it wouldn't ever get published. I called it my "weird little book" because the story has a different kind of storytelling, and I was told many times that I would probably have to change it. Some people felt the story was more for adults and that children wouldn't understand the symbolism. But I didn't listen. I had a need to get this story out honoring the way it had arrived in my head. Even though I didn't think anyone would want to publish it, I couldn't let it go. Finally, it found homes with my wonderful agent and then at the fantastic Paula Wiseman Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster.

THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST has now been translated into three languages and it's amazing to see children from all over the world identifying with the Boy, his fears, and his journey to make his own courage.

