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# AMOXCALLI

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AmoxCalli treasures books as sacred as well. We celebrate and encourages reading. Read everything and anything that you're interested in, that lights that spark inside you, that fires up your imagination and inspires you to be great and think big. We encourage the reading of stories about boy wizards, fairies, witches, princesses in need of rescuing, princes and kings, dragons, soldiers, warriors, war, anti-war, fairytales, graphic novels, manga, animation, fantasy, D&D, literary fiction, non-fiction, history, romance, self-help, erotica, dictionaries, science, sci-fi, dreams, battles, psychology, fitness, cookbooks, Darwinism, theology, pantheism, Wicca, the religion of your choice, comic books, newspapers, magazines, classified ads, the Best of Craigslist... If it's well-written, well thought out, then we want you to read it. We do not support bigotry in any form, and this site is dedicated to literate, open-minded readers of all persuasions, with the work of authors we think will fire your imagination. We deplore censorship.

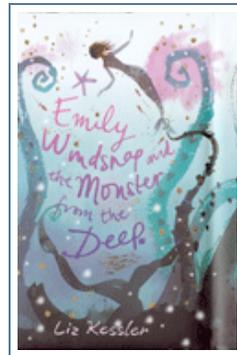
## CONTRIBUTORS

Lisa Alvarado

Gina MarySol Ruiz

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2007

## Emily Windsnap and the Monster from the Deep



Emily Windsnap and the Monster from the Deep

Author: Liz Kessler

Illustrator: Sarah Gibb

Publisher: Candlewick Press

Emily Windsnap is just like any ordinary teen-aged girl with all the problems that girls that age have. She's just a bit more unusual than most girls. Emily is half mermaid. In this

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## ABOUT GINA MARYSOL RUIZ

Gina MarySol Ruiz, or Sol as her good friends call her has worked in the entertainment industry for the past 15 years including one of the best jobs/times of her life the completely online publication group specializing in the animation and visual effects industry worldwide, AWN.com. She writes book reviews and articles for Xispas.com as well as the weekly children's book

## ABOUT LISA ALVARADO

Lisa Alvarado is a poet, performer, and installation artist, focusing on identity, spirit, and the body. She is the founder of **La Onda Negra Press**, and is author of *Reclamo* and **The Housekeeper's Diary**, originally a book of poetry and

recommendations and review for La Bloga. Sol is active in Aztec dancing and culture, Chicano rights activism and collected modern first editions. she's been an avid and prolific reader since she was five years old. She resides in Eagle Rock and has four children, plus ten amazingly beautiful and much loved grandchildren. Her life has often been described as a telenovela and she loves living it!

To have Sol review your book on AmoxCalli, please contact her via email.

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SOL & LISA'S EVER EXPANDING LIST OF SUPERPADRE COSAS

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charming sequel to *The Tail of Emily Windsnap* (*Candlewick, 2004*) she is ecstatic that her parents are back together after years apart, they're moving to the Bermuda Triangle to Allpoints Island a safe haven where merfolk and humans coexist in peace, her best friend Shona the mermaid is moving there as well, and she is leaving behind her school bully Mandy Rushton. Life should be wonderful indeed and it seems that way at first. Of course, that's before she and Shona accidentally awaken the Kracken and plunge Allpoints Island into incredible danger.

Like most of us, Emily has a hard time owning up to what she did and taking responsibility for it. Her parents are fighting more and more and she doesn't seem to fit in with the other mermaids. Worst of all, she runs right smack into her old nemesis Mandy.

*Emily Windsnap and the Monster from the Deep* is an interesting story and Emily herself is quite the heroine. It's not every girl that can take on both Neptune and the Kracken! She battles the same issues most girls these days do and then some. She's very plucky, curious and wants to do the right thing. She's even willing to fight for what she thinks is right. She's also human enough to be scared, to not want to face up to her own actions, to leave things till the last possible minute. I think there's a part in all of us that will identify with her. What makes her unique and even more interesting is the fact that she just happens to have a tail.

Another thing that I love about Emily is that she's a mixture - half human, half mermaid. Emily's story shows her wanting to be the best of both and fit in with the humans and the mermaids. Her parents trying to adjust themselves to each other's world and feeling like they don't fit in strikes a very real note and ties in nicely. I think that girls will identify and love Emily Windsnap. Highly recommended.

**About the Author:**

Liz Kessler lives on a canal boat in rural Cheshire, England.

now a one-woman performance, and is the recipient of grants from the Department of Cultural Affairs, The NEA, and the Ragdale Foundation. **The Housekeeper's Diary**, which dealt with her experiences as a domestic for one of Chicago's wealthiest families, premiered nationally in Washington, D.C. in 2001, as a co-production with Sol y Soul and Gala Hispanic Theater. **The Housekeeper's Diary** was performed to sold-out audiences and critical acclaim in Chicago, 2002.

She has performed throughout the U.S. and in Ajijic, Jalisco in Mexico. Lisa and her work has been featured in the Reader, The Chicago Tribune, Latino USA/National Public Radio, and Public Radio International.

Her first novel, **Sister Chicas** (written with Ann Hagman Cardinal and Jane Alberdeston) has been bought by

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She knew that her first book, *The Tail of Emily Windsnap*, wasn't the end of the Emily's story. She got the idea for the kraken from the name of an amusement park ride, then went on a snorkeling trip to Bermuda to fill in more details. *Emily Windsnap and the Monster from the Deep* will be published in 15 countries.

POSTED BY GINA MARYSOL RUIZ AT 2:55 PM

LABELS: EMILY WINDSNAP, LIZ KESSLER, MERMAIDS, OCEAN, YA FICTION

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Penguin/NAL, and was released in April 2006. **Sister Chicas** is a coming of age story concerning the lives of three young Latinas living in Chicago.

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