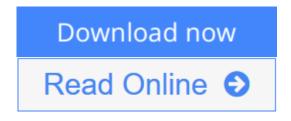


Lies Beneath

By Anne Greenwood Brown



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Fans of Amanda Hocking's novel, *Wake*, will dive into this paranormal romance featuring mermaids--the killer kind--and won't come up for air!

Calder White lives in the cold, clear waters of Lake Superior, the only brother in a family of murderous mermaids. To survive, Calder and his sisters prey on humans and absorb their positive energy. Usually, they select their victims at random, but this time around, the underwater clan chooses its target for a reason: revenge. They want to kill Jason Hancock, the man they blame for their mother's death.

It's going to take a concerted effort to lure the aquaphobic Hancock onto the water. Calder's job is to gain Hancock's trust by getting close to his family. Relying on his irresistible good looks and charm, Calder sets out to seduce Hancock's daughter Lily. Easy enough, but Calder screws everything up by falling in love--just as Lily starts to suspect there's more to the monster-in-the-lake legends than she ever imagined, and just as the mermaids threaten to take matters into their own hands, forcing Calder to choose between them and the girl he loves.

One thing's for sure: whatever Calder decides, the outcome won't be pretty.

"Riveting! A cold-blooded tale of secrets, revenge, and forbidden love that will leave you terrified to go in the water."--**Gretchen McNeil**, author of *Possess*

"Scary and spooky . . . I really enjoyed reading this."--USA Today

"A haunting tale of revenge and romance."--Justine Magazine

From the Hardcover edition.

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Lies Beneath By Anne Greenwood Brown Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up-Calder and his murderous mermaid sisters have spent years obsessing over a man named Jason Hancock, who was promised to their family as an infant after their mother saved his father's life. Finally Hancock has moved back to the shores of Lake Superior with his family to take up residence in his old house. Unfortunately, a lifetime spent listening to his father tell horrific yet improbable tales of "monsters" has made him wary of the water. Calder is dispatched, disguised in human form, to lure one of Hancock's daughters to the water instead, to be used as bait. Calder selects the elder daughter, beautiful Lily, and needless to say he quickly becomes distracted from his mission. The romance that ensues feels familiar, with a merman in place of other supernatural creatures du jour. Calder is amazingly handsome and alluring (due to his merman powers), while there is something different about Lily, who seems to have a special connection to the water. As narrator and romantic hero, Calder is problematic, not just because he is a self-confessed serial killer (though he feels bad about it, or at least he has mixed feelings), but also because he is a total wimp, constantly being bossed around by his sisters and whining about the cold water. A few plot twists keep the story going, and a sequel is in the works.-Eliza Langhans, Hatfield Public Library, MA α (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

About the Author

ANNE GREENWOOD BROWN grew up sailing the Apostle Islands on Lake Superior, leaning over the rail and wondering, with a lake that big, that ancient, what amazing thing might flash by. Now she knows. *Lies Beneath* is her first novel.

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CALLED HOME

I hadn't killed anyone all winter, and I have to say I felt pretty good about that. Sure, I'd wanted to, but too many suspicious drownings got people talking. Fearful towns- people were the last thing I needed. Besides, I was getting a sick thrill out of denying my body what it craved. Self-control was my latest obsession. I doubted my sisters could say the same thing.

Rising through the Caribbean waters, I walked my fingers up the bank of dead coral until I found the pattern of cracks I was looking for. I followed it to the surface, coming up at the spot where I'd stashed my pile of human clothes. My cell phone was ringing somewhere in the pile. Maris, I thought, gritting my teeth. I'd lost count of how many times she'd called today. I'd let all her attempts go to voice mail.

A splashing sound pulled my attention from my sister's ringtone, and I jerked around to face the ocean. An easy hundred yards away, a girl lay on an inflatable raft. A yellow light outlined her body. She wasn't ripe yet. Maybe, if I waited, the yellow light would grow into something more brilliant—more satisfying—more worth breaking my hard-won self-control over.

Against my will, the memory of my last kill teased the corners of my brain. It tempted me, mocked me for ever thinking I could rise above my nature. My fingers twitched at the months-old memory: the grabbing, the diving, the guise of human legs giving way to tail and fin, the tingling sensation heating my core as I pinned

my prey to the ocean floor, absorbing that intoxicating light, drawing the brilliant emotion out of her body until I felt almost . . .

Oh, what the hell.

But before I dove after the unsuspecting girl, my cell went off again. For a second I considered chucking it into the ocean; it was the disposable kind, after all. But that was a little extreme. Even for me. I let it go to voice mail. I mean, it wasn't like I didn't know why Maris was calling. The old, familiar pull was back. That pull—somewhere behind my rib cage, between my heart and my lungs—that told me it was almost time to leave Bahamian warmth and return to my family in the cold, bleak waters of Lake Superior. It was time to migrate.

A shiver rippled down my arms. Get a grip, Calder, I told myself. Ignore it. You don't have to leave quite yet. I could hear the memory of my mother's voice telling me the same thing, just as she had before my first migration. Focus, son, she'd said, rumpling my curly hair. Timing is everything.

Thirty years might have passed, but the loss of my mother still gripped my stomach. It hurt to remember. And the great lake only made the memories more painful. No, there was no good reason to go back to the States. Except that I had no choice.

The urge to migrate was irresistible. Far more powerful than the urge to kill. With each rise and fall of the moon, with each turn of the tide, it grew more impossible to ignore. Experience told me there were only a few more weeks before I had to rejoin my sisters. By the end of May, I'd be shooting through the water on a missile's course. God help anyone who got in my way.

My cell went off again. With a resigned curse, I pulled myself halfway out of the water and dug through my clothes until I found it and hit Send.

"Nice of you to take my call," Maris said.

"What do you want?"

"It's time. Get home. Now." Her voice, originally sarcastic, now rang with her usual fanaticism. I could hear my other sisters, Pavati and Tallulah, in the background, echoing her enthusiasm.

"Why now?" I asked, my voice flat. "It's still April."

"Why are you being such a pain?"

"It's nothing." There was a long pause on the other end. I closed my eyes and waited for her to figure it out. It didn't take more than a few seconds.

"How long?"

"Five months."

"Damn it, Calder, why do you always have to be such a masochist? God, you must be a mess."

"I'm pacing myself. Mind your own business, Maris." There was no point in trying to explain my abstinence

to her. I could barely explain it to myself. I watched mournfully as the yellow-lit raft girl paddled safely toward shore.

"Your mental health is my business. Do you think you could take better care of it? One kill, Calder. Just one. It would make you feel so much better."

"I'm. Fine," I spit through my teeth.

"You're an ass, but that's beside the point. I've got something to improve your mood."

I rolled my eyes and waited for her to give it a shot. Good luck, I thought.

"We've found Jason Hancock."

My heart lurched at the sound of the name, but I kept quiet rather than give in to her assurance. I'd heard this all before. My silence prompted something on the other end. Panic? Tallulah's voice was now ringing through the receiver, a fluid stream of words almost too quick for me to catch.

I let my gaze drift up to the thin lace of clouds above me. My sisters sounded sure of themselves. Perhaps this time they'd gotten it right. "Fine. I'll start off tomorrow."

"No," Maris said. "There's no time for you to swim. Take a plane."

She hung up before I could protest.

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Celina Ziolkowski:

The actual book Lies Beneath will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading any book. The author style to describe the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to see, this book very ideal to you. The book Lies Beneath is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

Donald Jones:

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Pedro Murray:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book may be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the e-book untitled Lies Beneath can be excellent book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Alicia Cain:

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