

# ***The Thing About Mermaids***

***by  
Tara Meddaugh***



**A MONOLOGUE**

Special thanks to Julian, for his creative insights,  
and for inspiring this monologue.

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# THE THING ABOUT MERMAIDS

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## DETAILS

Genre: Comedy/Children

Cast: Female/male

Age range: 5-10

Running time: Approximately 45 seconds - 1 minute

Setting: Park

## DESCRIPTION

*Riley recognizes that many mystical creatures are not real, but knows that mermaids are. In fact, Riley just saw one yesterday and describes the sighting to a friend in a park. But of all the mystical creatures, it's kind of a waste that mermaids are real.*

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RILEY

I know leprechauns aren't real. I learned that when I was four and saw my mom hiding gold coins around the house in the middle of the night. And I know unicorns aren't real either, because they've been extinct since the dinosaurs. But mermaids?

(pause)

I saw one in the lake yesterday. It was on a rock. It looked at me and didn't even wave! And then it just slid into the water. It kinda looked like a snake and a seal and a barbie doll.

(pause)

You know you can't fish mermaids, right? It's illegal. And, they don't give you wishes because there's no such thing as magic. They're not even very nice, so it's not like they'll become your best friend and go to school with you and suddenly everyone will wanna hang out with you.

(pause)

It's such a waste that mermaids are real.

END OF MONOLOGUE

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Tara is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University's MFA program in Dramatic Writing. Her work has been presented by theaters such as Fusion Theatre, The Directors Company, Le Petit Theatre de Terrebonne, Theatre One, Westchester Collaborative Theater, Tagragg Productions, One Armed Man, Oracle Theatre, Inc, the Bobik Theatre Ensemble, The Acme Theatre Company, The Harlequin Players, Woman Seeking..., and numerous schools, universities and colleges including Gardner-Webb, Prince Williams, and Colgate. Her work has also showcased at the Artists of Tomorrow Festival in NYC, The Bangkok Community Theatre Fringe Festival, the Pittsburgh New Works Series and the Last Frontier Theatre Conference in Alaska. Students, teachers and actors world-wide have utilized her plays and monologues for competitions, Directing, Acting and Dramatic Literature courses and workshops in schools, colleges and theatres. Serial monologues she wrote were performed for two years by the internationally recognized receptionist-robot, Valerie. She has taught Playwriting and Screenwriting at Carnegie Mellon, the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and for The Westport Country Playhouse, and she has led Creative Dramatics Workshops for children in underserved areas throughout New York and New Jersey. Additionally, she toured in a Children's Theatre Troupe, which she wrote for, co-directed, and performed in. Tara's work has been published by YouthPLAYS, Oxford Press South Africa, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), The Hunger Journal, Meriweather Publishing and Applause Theatre & Cinema. She is a two-time recipient of the Shubert Fellowship in Dramatic Writing, the Sloan Screenwriting Fellowship, the New Works for Young Women [Actors] Award and is a member of the Dramatist's Guild. Tara has written children's books, short stories, a novel, and writes and records music in the chick-core rap band, [Girl Crusade](#). She has a hereditary knack for finding four-leaf clovers, can recite all 50 states in less than 30 seconds and if she had to be an animal, other than human, she would choose to be an elephant. Tara lives in Westchester County with her husband and two dramatic children.

For more information about Tara Meddaugh or her work,  
visit her website at [www.tameddaugh.com](http://www.tameddaugh.com).