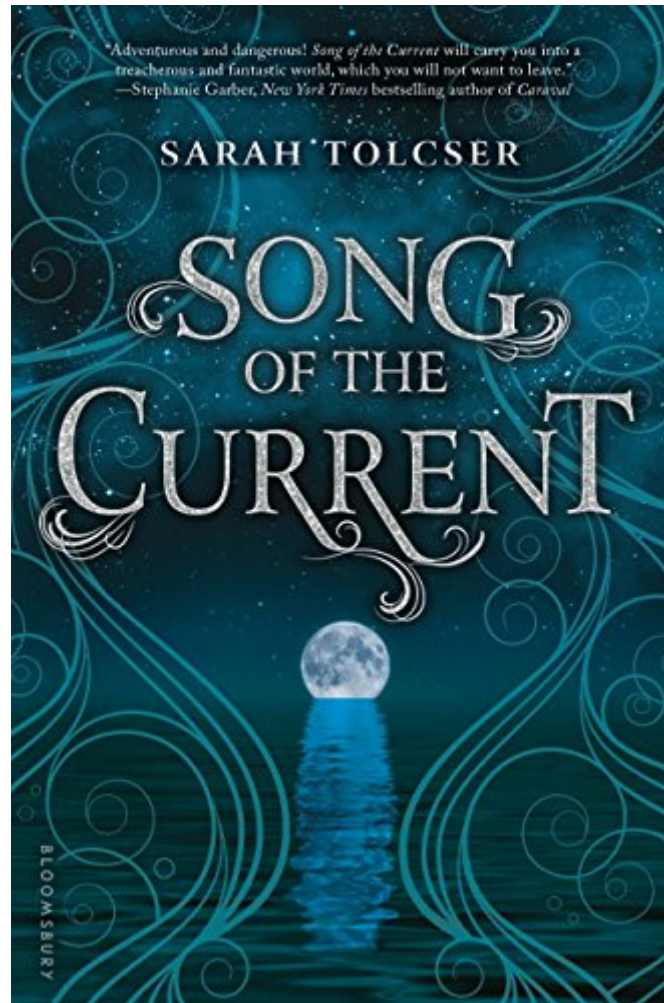




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Song Of The Current



Synopsis

Caroline Oresteia is destined for the river. Her father is a wherryman, as was her grandmother. All Caro needs is for the river god to whisper her name, and her fate is sealed. But at seventeen, Caro may be too late. So when pirates burn ships and her father is arrested, Caro volunteers to transport mysterious cargo in exchange for his release. Secretly, Caro hopes that by piloting her own wherry, the river god will finally speak her name. But when the cargo becomes more than Caro expected, she finds herself caught in a web of politics and lies. With much more than her father's life at stake, Caro must choose between the future she knows, and the one she could have never imagined.

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Customer Reviews

What do you do when your destiny is bigger than you were told? Caro has always been told that the river god will call for her when she is ready. She has been straining to hear the call for as long as she can remember. Caro decides to take her destiny into her own hands and takes on her father's job to transport cargo in exchange for her father's life.

freedom. Caro was given strict rules to dealing with the cargo she was in charge of, and like any normal human with a sense of curiosity she opens the crate and Hello story. Caro is such a great character, she is strong and independent, she seems to have a good head on her shoulders and she doesn't take crap from anyone. She is determined to get this cargo delivered to its destination, despite pirates trying to hunt her down for what is on her ship. She is quick thinking and sharp witted when it comes to dodging them. There is magic in this book, but it's not overly saturated, it is used just in a way that helps tell the story but not so much that it takes away from Caro. Family is of key importance in this book; Caro is willing to take on this dangerous shipment to save her father. Her mother is not so much a part of this book until later on. She is very focused on her job, but is still there to help Caro when she needs it. My only issue was with all the ship terms that were used in the book, I think it would have been a bit helpful if there was a glossary in the back to help those of us who don't have our sea legs. I cannot wait to see what adventures Caro has ahead of her in the next book.

I feel like it has been entirely too long since I found a book that I couldn't put down. *Song of the Current* was that kind of book for me. I am absolutely in LOVE with all of these books coming out with badass, sea-faring ladies! This book delivered all the scalawags I could have ever wanted! Caro finds herself on a mission to deliver some important cargo from Hespera's Watch to Valonikos. After refusing it himself, her father ended up being locked up for smuggling, so Caro agreed to deliver it in exchange for his release. She takes the crate of mysterious cargo and her frogman, Fee, and hit the river. She quickly finds herself being hunted down by a group of fearsome pirates known as the Black Dogs. Wanting to know what she was risking her life to deliver, Caro opens the crate to find a boy. A courier on his way to deliver an important message to Valonikos. Caro was such a fun heroine. She's kinda sassy with a no nonsense attitude. She doesn't put up with a lot of crap. She has spent her whole life waiting to hear the river god call on her as he has on generations of Oresteia wherryman. But at 17, she has pretty much given up any hope of the river god calling on her. Not that she needs his favor, she is a perfectly capable wherryman all on her own. Tarquin, the courier sent from Akhaia to Valonikos to deliver a message, was a good character too. Caro suspects that he's keeping secrets. I liked him as a character. I feel like it took me a minute to grow to like him though. I don't know, I feel like his development wasn't super smooth? Like in the beginning he comes off as spoiled and then the next thing you know, he's just not?? I don't know if he's supposed to be putting on some kind of act or maybe that's just how quickly Caro's opinion of him changed, but it felt a bit off to me. I liked the romance in this book. It's a hate-to-love kind of

thing. Caro and Tarquin can't stand each other when they first meet. Tarquin is mostly just spoiled and useless and Caro wishes that she could stuff him back into his enchanted box, but she can't. Then they start to understand each other more and tell each other the truth and they grow on each other. This book is pretty much nonstop action, so it's really easy to get drawn into it. I really enjoyed all the relationships in this book. Between Caro and her father, her wherry, Tarquin, Fee, I loved it! Like I said, the only thing that I think I didn't like was the development of Tarquin because it didn't feel smooth. Overall, I loved this book. It's definitely a favorite of 2017! This is kind of a junky review, but darn it, it's hard to write reviews of books I love because I just want to spell it all out for you and that's just not how it works. If you liked *Daughter of the Pirate King*, you will probably like this one as well!

Plot: Caro had her future all outlined, she would inherit the family boat and live her days on the river like a true wherryman. Her plans went to hell when she was forced to deliver a package to a neighboring kingdom and deal with a boy who clearly had never set foot on a boat. Unexpectedly, Caro found herself with unlikely allies and a key player in a political scheme. I don't know how to start this review. I have written words and deleted words multiple times and looked up synonyms for "great." No matter what I say, it won't truly describe how much I loved this book. From the start, you could tell that *Song of the Current* was going to be a non-stop adventure. The plot is your basic political betrayal, but it pulled from a lot of other happenings in the *Song of the Current* world which I'm eagerly awaiting to learn more about in the sequel.

Characters: Be still my heart; Caro was everything and I wanted and more. Raised by her father, Caroline wasn't afraid to get down and dirty and would do anything to protect her home. She was headstrong, fearless, and unsure of her place in life. I loved her because she thought that she was destined for a quiet river life and saw herself as a "sidekick" in someone else's story. Caro was also biracial and I found it really interesting how Tolcser handled race relations in this fantasy world. I recommend checking out this blog post the author wrote before reading *Song of the Current*, because it's great insight into Tolcser's intentions and hopes for Caro's portrayal. Okay enough of that, can we talk about the kissing? Because the kissing, it killed me guys! The romance was my all-time favorite trope of "enemies-to-lovers" and those two were at each other's throats 90% of the time. The banter was witty and had me laughing out loud at times, and I absolutely adored how the author wrote their journey to each other and her subtle thoughts on love and attraction.

Worldbuilding: Sarah Tolcser wrote one of the most authentic fantasy worlds I've seen in a while. Tolcser clearly had a deep love for life on water and her passion for it spilled onto the pages. She incorporated regional dialects,

traditions, and local mythologies. Song of the Current took place mostly on water but it never felt limiting. I grew to love wherryman life and easily fell into Caro's day to day motions on the river. Short N Sweet: Song of the Current took my breath away with Caro's sass and the beauty of the river lands. This is a series I'll be talking about for a long time.

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