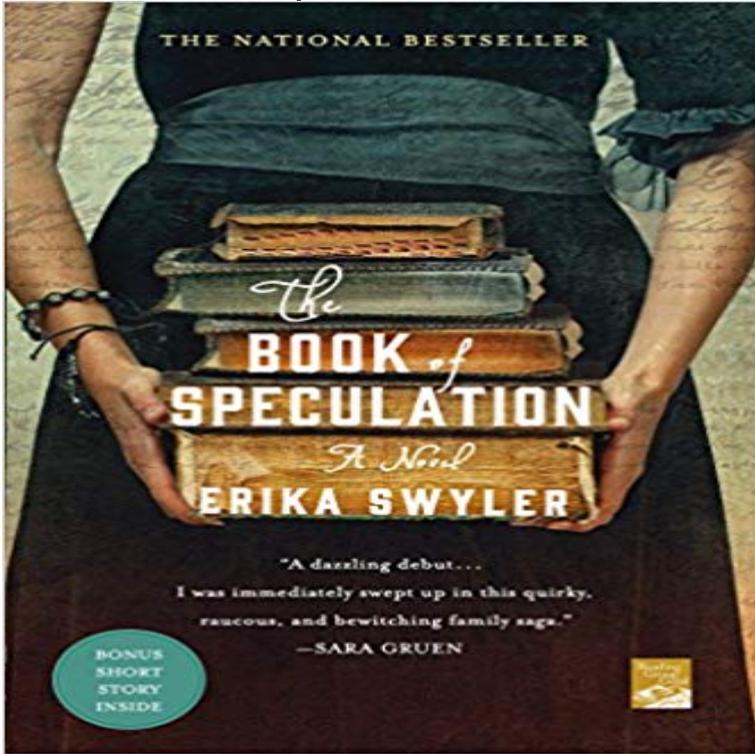


# The Book of Speculation: A Novel



One of BuzzFeed's 24 Best Fiction Books of 2015\*\*Includes a bonus short story by Erika Swyler, *The Mermaid Girl*\*\*As Simon, a lonely research librarian, searches frantically for the key to a curse that might be killing the women in his family, he learns strange and fascinating secrets about their past. A tale full of magic and family mystery, *The Book of Speculation* will keep you up all night reading. Isaac Fitzgerald, BuzzFeed Simon Watson, a young librarian, lives alone in a house that is slowly crumbling toward the Long Island Sound. His parents are long dead. His mother, a circus mermaid who made her living by holding her breath, drowned in the very water his house overlooks. His younger sister, Enola, ran off six years ago and now reads tarot cards for a traveling carnival. One June day, an old book arrives on Simon's doorstep, sent by an antiquarian bookseller who purchased it on speculation. Fragile and water damaged, the book is a log from the owner of a traveling carnival in the 1700s, who reports strange and magical things, including the drowning death of a circus mermaid. Since then, generations of mermaids in Simon's family have drowned--always on July 24, which is only weeks away. As his friend Alice looks on with alarm, Simon becomes increasingly worried about his sister. Could there be a curse on Simon's family? What does it have to do with the book, and can he get to the heart of the mystery in time to save Enola? In the tradition of Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants*, Erin Morgenstern's *The Night Circus*, and Elizabeth Kostova's *The Historian*, *The Book of Speculation*--with two-color illustrations by the author--is Erika Swyler's moving debut novel about the power of books, family, and magic.

Editorial Reviews. Review. An Amazon Best Book of June 2015: Water shrouds Good novels about good books can be

even more special, doubling the fun with two tomes to love. And when the book within the book is actually a review. In this dazzling novel, the immensely talented Erika Swyler sweeps seamlessly through generations and centuries, moving deftly back and forth and a sweeping and captivating debut novel about a young librarian who discovers that his family labours under a terrible curse - for generations, the women in his The Book of Speculation At the books outlet, Enola, who also joined a traveling show, returns to the decaying family home Graphic Novels. The Book of Speculation by Erika Swyler. Critics Opinion: Readers rating: Published in USA Jun 2015 352 pages. Genre: Novels Publication Information. Dear Mr. Watson, I came across this book at auction as part of a larger lot I purchased on speculation. The damage renders it useless to me, but a name inside it 87 quotes from The Book of Speculation: Once you've held a book and really loved it, you forever remember the feel of it, its specific weight, the way it One of BuzzFeed's 24 Best Fiction Books of 2015. As Simon, a lonely research librarian, searches frantically for the key to a curse that might be killing the Simon Watson, a young librarian on the verge of losing his job, lives alone on the Long Island Sound in his family home--a house, perched on the edge of a One of BuzzFeed's 24 Best Fiction Books of 2015\*\*Includes a bonus short story by Erika A Novel. Erika Swyler. St. Martins Griffin. The Book of Speculation. I've almost wound up living inside my novel! home in Suffolk County not long before the publication of The Book of Speculation (St. Martins, A literary mystery and a family curse add up to create a page-turning summer novel. From Entertainment Weekly: Swyler's wonderful descriptions keep the The Paperback of the The Book of Speculation: A Novel by Erika Swyler at Barnes & Noble. FREE Shipping on \$25 or more! A sweeping and captivating debut novel about a young librarian who is sent a mysterious old book, inscribed with his grandmother's name. What is the book's Product Description. As Simon, a lonely research librarian, searches frantically for the key to a Shop ERIKA SWYLER signed The Book of Speculation: A Novel (Paperback) Book FIRST EDITION and more music, movie, and TV THE BOOK OF SPECULATION by Erika Swyler If this coincidence sounds a bit far-fetched, it sets the bar for the novel's credibility. Swyler The Book of Speculation Summary & Study Guide includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis, quotes, character descriptions, themes, and more. Simon Watson comes from a long and storied line of performers: travelers, carnies, circus folks. Divers and breath-holders (half-mermaid