



The House by the Sea: A Novel

By Santa Montefiore

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The House by the Sea: A Novel By Santa Montefiore

Previously published as *The Mermaid Garden*, the internationally bestselling author of *The French Gardener* presents a complex and irresistibly compelling novel that confirms the remarkable power of love to heal and transform.

Ten-year-old Floriana is captivated by the beauty of the magnificent Tuscan villa that overlooks the sea just outside her small village. She likes to spy from the crumbling wall into the gardens and imagine that one day she'll escape her meager existence and live there surrounded by its otherworldly splendor. Then one day Dante, the son of the villa's powerful industrialist owner, invites her inside and shows her the enchanting Mermaid Garden. From that moment, Floriana knows that the only destiny for her is there, in that garden, with Dante. But as they grow up and fall in love, their romance causes a crisis, jeopardizing the very thing they hold most dear.

Decades later and hundreds of miles away, a beautiful old country house hotel on England's Devon coast has fallen on hard times after the financial crash of 2008. Its owner, Marina, advertises for an artist to stay the summer and teach the guests how to paint. The man she hires is charismatic and wise and soon begins to pacify the discord in her family and transform the fortunes of the hotel. However, he has his own agenda. Is it to destroy, to seduce, or to heal? Whatever his intentions, he is certain to change Marina's life forever.

Spanning four decades and sweeping from the Italian countryside to the English coast, this new story by Santa Montefiore is a moving and mysterious tale of love, forgiveness, and the past revealed.

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Editorial Review

Review

“One sumptuous tale of love, loss, and redemption.” (Publishers Weekly)

“Santa Montefiore is the new Rosamunde Pilcher.” – *Daily Mail (UK)*

"Montefiore is a grand storyteller."

-- Emily Melton, *Booklist*

“Nobody does epic romance like Santa Montefiore. Everything she writes, she writes from the heart.” (Jojo Moyes)

“You will not be able to put this novel down. Unforgettable!” (Adriana Trigiani)

About the Author

Born in England in 1970, Santa Montefiore grew up in Hampshire. She is married to historian Simon Sebag Montefiore. They live with their two children, Lily and Sasha, in London. Visit her at www.santamontefiore.co.uk.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Lacey:

As people who live in the modest era should be up-date about what going on or facts even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which can be always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to you is you don't know which one you should start with. This The House by the Sea: A Novel is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

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