



## The Sea Chest

*Toni Buzzeo , Mary GrandPré (Illustrator)*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

# The Sea Chest

*Toni Buzzeo , Mary GrandPré (Illustrator)*

**The Sea Chest** Toni Buzzeo , Mary GrandPré (Illustrator)

**From the author of the 2013 Caldecott Honor Book, ONE COOL FRIEND!**

As they wait for the arrival of a new baby, Maita tells her great-grandniece the story of her remarkable childhood. Living sheltered on a lighthouse island with only her parents for company, Maita always longed for a sibling-longed not to be the only child the ragged island knew. And then one icy night, howling winds blew wave after wave against the shore, and from that fearsome storm came a sea chest-a gift that would change Maita's life forever.

From a beguiling Maine legend, newcomer Toni Buzzeo has fashioned this exquisitely lyrical, intimate tale, illustrated in vibrant oil paintings by Mary GrandPré. Together they have created a book of classic beauty and resonance.

## The Sea Chest Details

Date : Published August 5th 2002 by Dial (first published 2002)

ISBN : 9780803727038

Author : Toni Buzzeo , Mary GrandPré (Illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Parenting, Adoption

 [Download The Sea Chest ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Sea Chest ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Sea Chest Toni Buzzeo , Mary GrandPré (Illustrator)**

---

## From Reader Review The Sea Chest for online ebook

### Terry says

A beautiful story that explains adoption without hitting the child over the head with the concept like many other books do. The narrative style allows the reader to embrace the idea, and not walk away saying.

Get more of our review here. While you're there, add a link to your review of the book.

---

### Alice says

This book got a little Great Aunt talking about this little girls great grandmother talking about the past. I was engrossed. I really liked the pictures...I wanted to give it a 4 star but, when I found out the story is fiction...I got sad. It is a really lovely story. In the back on the author's note, it does talk about a historical record that is similar to the book but there is no written documented accounts...so it is either a nice story or TRUE! In my head, I am going with true because it makes me happy!

---

### Sandie says

I liked this story...told by an aging Aunt Maita as she remembers back to her childhood and tells it to her niece who is waiting now for the sister or brother that Maita longed for as a child.

Its based on a legend from Hendricks Head Lighthouse in Maine, a legend that took place in the 1870's. I thought it was very interesting and did a little research on it after we read the book. My daughter (6) enjoyed it but I don't think she found it quite as interesting as I did. However, she stayed with me the whole time and listened and looked at the pictures.

It was a nice story, beautifully illustrated and a little bit sad due to the shipwreck trajedy.

---

### Kelly says

The Sea Chest is an uplifting book with a great story behind the book as well. This story is about a chest that has survived a ship wreck. A family finds this chest only to come across a little baby in their with a note attached to her wrist, to then become a part of the family.

The watercolor illustrations create the movement that guides the reader's eyes all over the page. The color choices that are used in the illustration bring a sense of being dated or old. There are worn edges to enhance that as well. The text is in almost a poetry format, so at some points it was confusing (nothing a little re-reading with visual cues to help out with that).

Beautiful book and a touching story at book. Definitely a great one for the classroom library.

---

### **Traci says**

The Sea Chest was about a grandmother who was telling her about something that happened to her when she was a little girl, 80 years ago. She had lived as an only child on an island and her only wish was to have another child on the island. One day there was a huge storm, and when her and her father went exploring afterward, they found a chest sitting on a rock. When they opened it up, there was a baby girl inside who they took in as their own daughter. Now the grandmother had a sister and was not an only child. I thought this book was cute but I don't think it would thrill a classroom of students too much. It wasn't highly exciting or anything. The pictures were very well done though and each page was framed in a sandy color. This is more of a little girl's book; probably one I would have read in elementary school.

---

### **Marsha says**

This stirring tale told in free-form poetry is a deceptively simple yet moving tale about a baby rescued from the sea. The lovely oil illustrations of Ms. Grandpré lend their quiet dignity to this tale of familial love that expands to take in a tiny stranger. The scenes of the ocean are particularly lovely, including wondrous sparkles that can only be seen when the sun hits the sea.

---

### **Kayla Gayle says**

Toni Buzzeo's *The Sea Chest* is a heart touching story about an aunt and her great grandniece, Aunt Maita tells her great grandniece about when she was younger and lived next to the sea where her dad worked in a lighthouse. One night a terrible storm came, and Maita and her father went down onto the rocks the next morning after the storm to collect sea glass for her jar. But instead they find a leather sea chest, in which they find a baby inside, Maita named her Seabourne and took her home with them. Maita and Seabourne became close and Maita taught her how to do many things like probe for eggs. As they grew older they separated and married, then Maita told her great grandniece that she had to bury her sister. I felt like it was a very heart warming story about an only child becoming a sister, and how that touched her. Mary Granpre's illustrations are spectacular and very clear.

---

### **Michele says**

Great-great-aunt shares the story of how her younger sister joined the family. Aunt was the daughter of a lighthouse keeper. The morning after a ferocious storm she and her father explore the beach and find a trunk with a sea captain's baby inside. The child is adopted by the lighthouse keeper and his wife. Book is based on local legend.

---

### **Emily says**

This book is unique because the story is told in a poetic form. I liked the rhythm it provides, but I felt like it

became kind of confusing. I think some children would struggle reading parts of this story because they'd be too worried about making sense of the text. I definitely would recommend reading this aloud to children, especially to those who are struggling readers, rather than have them read it to themselves.

The story itself was good though. I really liked how it was based on a legend told in Maine. It would be a good story to read to kids who are expecting a younger sibling to arrive soon, especially if the sibling is being adopted.

---

### **Emma says**

This book is near and dear to my heart. I was fortunate enough to meet the author when I was in the fifth grade. She visited our school, and brought us all copies of the book. She signed them for us, and mine she signed, "To Emma-Wishing you unexpected treasures!" Her illustrations are done by the wonderful and talented Mary GrandPre, the same woman who did the special illustrations for Harry Potter. An absolutely beautiful book!

---

### **Kathryn says**

4.5 STARS. "The Sea Chest" isn't quite perfect but it did captivate me thanks in large part to the luminous illustrations by Mary GrandPre. This is the "based on a maybe-true/maybe-legend story" of the lighthouse keepers on a small island along the Maine coast and how a sea chest wrapped in mattresses washes ashore after a ship is lost during a storm. What's inside??? You'll have to read to find out--but I'll give you a clue, the "mewling" sound inside is not a kitten as the lighthouse keeper's daughter hopes, but turns out to be something she loves even more.

---

### **Tamara says**

I read this to our Summer Reading youth. It is a slightly harder book to do in a Storytime situation when you've never read it before. (I grabbed it off the display shelf today when the presenter was running late.) The kids stayed quiet to hear the story, so the book kept them interested. This surprised me since the story didn't seem that exciting.

It seemed like the language really grabbed them. There were a handful of words they didn't know so great as a vocabulary expander. And we also had a great discussion about different things that could be considered treasure and what different kinds of people we consider family.

3 3/4 ? bumping up to 4 stars

---

### **Jen Woo says**

Based on a folktale about a shipwreck and the small delivery that was discovered on the shore of an island, The Sea Chest tugs at the heartstrings. It weaves the tale of sisterly affection, devotion, and adoption.

\* Recommended as a "guaranteed-to-make-you-cry-read-and-therefore-not appropriate-for-storytime" read, by a Children's Services Librarian.

---

### **Patsy Parker says**

This is a very intriguing story. I mainly picked it up because of the front cover. Mary GrandPre' is a wonderful illustrator!

I realize the author is saying this is a tale that has come down through the ages, but it is pretty unrealistic in my opinion. It is still intriguing and kept me reading to find out what happens, though.

---

### **Jamie says**

\*Read to the last page. Interesting facts in the back!

---