

SALTWIND

SAMPLE TEASER

Written by

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TEASER

EXT. SELWYN HOUSE - MORNING

A large, weathered house with peeling paint and a sagging wrap-around porch overlooks the marsh.

Rows of live oak trees draped with Spanish moss shade the sprawling open yard.

A long wooden dock stretches out through the marsh into the winding creek.

The screen door flies open.

Out runs WRENLEY SELWYN, 11, sun-bleached hair, freckled cheeks, and bare feet.

She darts through the yard and ducks under the dock moments before her little brother, JUDE SELWYN, 7, enters the porch.

EXT. UNDER THE DOCK - CONTINUOUS

She tiptoes through the soggy pluff mud as light slips through the boards above, careful not to cut herself on the jagged barnacle-covered posts.

FIDDLER CRABS scurry into their holes. She catches one and holds it up to the light.

WRENLEY

You're cute, but you're not Nibs.
Haven't seen him for a while. Do
you know where he is?

She waits for an answer, knowing she won't get one.

She puts the crab down, and it dashes into a hole.

EXT. YARD - MOMENTS LATER

Jude wanders around. His voice rings out over the creek.

JUDE

Wreny! Where are you? Mama's
lookin' for you.

He turns back towards the woods and peeks under a stack of kayaks, accidentally knocking them to the ground.

Wrenley peeks out from under the dock, but at that moment she sees her little sister, EVIE LOU, 5, running down the porch in her nightgown and slippers, toting her STUFFED FROG.

EVIE LOU
Wee-nie! I see you. You can't hide
from me.

EXT. UNDER THE DOCK - CONTINUOUS

Wrenley ducks back down and puts her head in her hands.

Just then, a GREAT BLUE HERON appears next to her.

Wrenley lifts her head. Startled, she jumps to her feet and BUMPS her head on the dock.

WRENLEY
You know you shouldn't sneak up on
people like that.

The bird stares at her with YELLOW EYES.

WRENLEY (CONT'D)
Must be nice to be you. You can fly
anywhere you want. No one makes you
watch babies all day.

Evie Lou pops her head over the side of the dock; her hair spills over the edge.

EVIE LOU
Who ya talkin' to? -- Oh, no!

She slips and drops her stuffed frog in the mud.

The heron takes off and flies away.

Disappointed, Wrenley brushes the mud off the frog and climbs back up.

EXT. DOCK - DAY

Wrenley hands Evie Lou her frog, and she squeezes it tight. They walk down the dock together.

WRENLEY
Does Mama know you're out here?

EVIE LOU
I don't know. Maybe.

WRENLEY

You're going to get me in so much trouble. You can't just wander off without telling anyone.

EVIE LOU

Why? You do.

Across the yard, Jude angrily tries to stack the kayaks, but they tumble back down to the ground.

EXT. YARD - MOMENTS LATER

Wrenley helps Jude pick up the kayaks while Evie Lou dances in the mud with her SLIPPERS.

JUDE

Mama's prepping for the party and needs your help.

WRENLEY

(under her breath)
Great.

EVIE LOU

Can I help you make eggies?

Wrenley gazes out over the marsh and watches the blue heron glide through the sky.

EVIE LOU (CONT'D)

Wee-nie, I want to help you make eggies. Wee-nie, please, let me help you. Please, Wee-nie. Please, please.

WRENLEY

Okay, fine. Just don't crack the eggs so hard this time.

Evie Lou motions for Wrenley to pick her up. Wrenley carries her back to the house as Jude follows behind.

JUDE

After breakfast, can we play monster trucks?

EVIE LOU

Yeah, can we?

Mud from Evie Lou's slippers transfers to her shirt. Wrenley lets out a long sigh.

WRENLEY
Sure, why not?

EXT. SELWYN HOUSE - PORCH - DAY

Wrenley sets Evie Lou down and helps her take off her shoes. Jude grabs the hose and starts spraying his feet, but somehow ends up drenching the entire porch.

JUDE
Look, Wreny, the moon's still out.

He points to the sky, but Wrenley doesn't look; she's too busy cleaning, annoyed by the mess.

Evie Lou jumps around with her frog, excited.

EVIE LOU
Moon! Moon! Moon! Wait, where did it go?

WRENLEY
It's just behind the clouds.

EVIE LOU
Ah, man. I miss it.

JUDE
It'll be back; just wait.

WRENLEY
Y'all, go wash up. I don't want dirt in my eggies.

Evie Lou and Jude rush inside, leaving the door open while Wrenley finishes putting the hose away.

She pauses in the doorway and looks back.

The heron stands alone at the end of the dock.

Wrenley looks it over and smiles, then disappears inside.

The heron remains unmoving.

Clouds drift away, revealing the full moon.

Suddenly, its feathers GLOW GOLD.

END TEASER