

To the Edge of the Sea

Anne McDonald

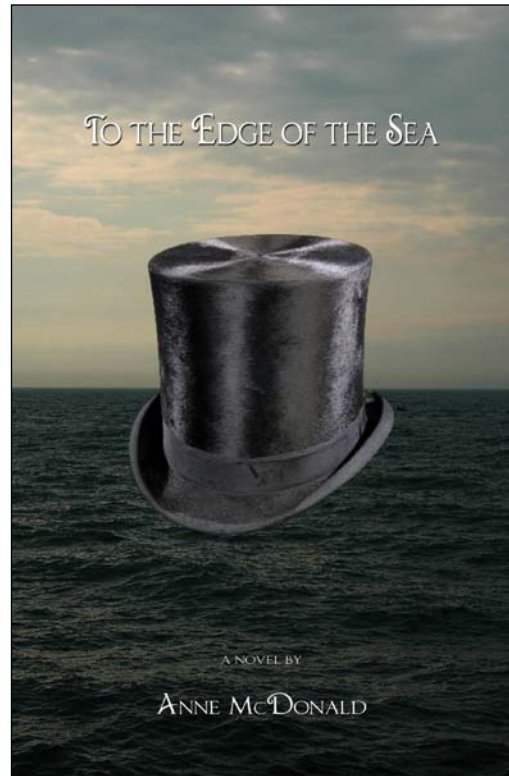
Alex was in harmony with the water. He taught himself to swim, and liked working the sea off Prince Edward Island as his fisherman father did, but he always yearned for something more. His brother Reggie despised it all — the water that brought death, the seasickness, and he needed to breathe the air of farms. Reggie yearned for escape. Mercy Coles lived on the same island as Alex and Reggie, but lived in Charlottetown's society and yearned for experience.

All three would get their wish, but coincidence would shape those wishes in profound ways. Alex would find himself on a circus trapeze fated to meet the Niagara Falls tightrope artist, Farini. Reggie would join the farmers' protests against the tax collectors, and battle the demons of guilt in the supposed death of his brother. Mercy would find herself landlocked on John A Macdonald's hard-drinking and dancing campaign to sell Confederation, attracted to his power while thinking him the ugliest man in Canada.

Anne McDonald weaves a series of spells that pull this beautifully written novel through a tightly woven script. Rich in tone and textured for a very rewarding reading experience, *To the Edge of the Sea* combines great storytelling with polished literary control.



ANNE MCDONALD has been writing for sixteen years and her work has appeared in *The Society* and *Descant* and has been broadcast on CBC Radio. *The Coincidence of Water and Air* (original title of *To the Edge of the Sea*) was First Alternate for the John V. Hicks fiction manuscript award and she was keynote speaker at the Sage Hill Teen Writing Experience in 2010.



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