

"A brilliantly creepy and worryingly enthralling debut"  
*Daily Mirror*

# SOMETHING IN THE SEA

A NOVEL BY

YVES BONAVERO

PUBLISHED BY BLOOMSBURY - APRIL 2006

"I was **gripped** and **enthralled**..."

**William Boyd**

Winner, Whitbread Award and the Somerset Maugham Prize,  
Nominated for 2002 Booker Prize

"...an astounding tale...an astonishing and gripping story..."

*The Guardian*

"The plot is **tight and exciting**, and the writing has great authority... it gives a sort  
of 'Conrad' feel..."

...**admirable stuff**...

I was so gripped by the story that there was **no way I was going to stop**...  
...the framing device of the story is **absolutely wonderful**... simultaneously original  
and traditional..."

I enjoyed reading it enormously."

**Sara Maitland**

Winner Somerset Maugham Award, Scottish Writer of the Year

"...grips the reader's attention...difficult to put down...  
the ending is as surprising as it is shocking."

*Yorkshire Gazette & Herald*

"Something of an ancient mariner saga...  
curiously hypnotic."

*Literary Review*

"a chilling psychological thriller by a debut writer of whom we will certainly hear more."

*The Daily Mail*

*"...it kept me turning the pages through two solid chunks of reading...The description of the storm, for example...is **terrific**...I like the premise too. I like the use of the Little Mermaid fairytale and I think that the device of the story within a story is very effective....  
**I enjoyed it a lot.**"*

**Patrick Neate**  
**Whitbread Novel Award Winner**

"...will keep you mesmerised until you have to separate the smokescreen from the final punchline."

*Time Out*

*"...remarkable... a genuinely compelling, almost hypnotic story.*

*The spiritual stuff is **great, magical and tender**...*

*The opening storm, the nautical veracity and the details are **terrific. Gripping.***

*Kurt's story is **intoxicating, mesmeric.** And it makes me want to shout 'Carpe Diem'. It made me very glad of my own family. It made me sad.*

*It's **a great read** ...I'm full of admiration."*

**Richard Holmes**  
**Film producer and scriptwriter**  
**(Shooting Fish, Waking Ned Devine)**

“...before I knew it, it was 2: 30 in the morning and all hopes of a romantic evening with my wife had long since evaporated...  
...far more subtle than a straight thriller...  
...the storytelling is strong enough to keep you enthralled...with its copious thought-provoking sub-plots.

Just don't start it if you need a good night's sleep.”

***Motor Boat & Yachting***

“...***a tremendous plot. The menacing atmosphere of a storm at sea and a strange port at night is good, and the action ... is gripping...***  
...***a brilliant plot, interesting characters...***”

**David Reynolds**  
**Short listed for the J.R. Ackerley Award, 2002**

“...a damn good read...ends with a brilliantly written stream of consciousness, leaving you itching to know more.”

***The Oxford Times***

“a psychological thriller jam-packed with suspense...  
...an intelligent novel with a gripping plot and interesting characters.”

***Sailing Magazine***

“Bonavero's debut is impressive: a tight plot, characters one cares about, an eye for detail and the nuances of the jet-set life acutely observed. This is much better than a beach read. But for peace of mind, don't take it on the water.”

***The First Post***

"The book is an excellent, if properly unsettling read...The tale's twist leaves one shocked...it would make a wonderful tension-building movie, of a noir genre rarely achieved today...The success of the writer is that we feel sympathy for the characters...the good and bad, the strong and weak, but above all the innocent."

***The Yacht Report***

"AS A PIECE of storytelling this is close to perfection. As a first novel it is a triumph...By sunrise, each person is changed forever. That the entire novel takes place over just a few hours is no bone for contention in this absorbing tale, such is the engrossing quality of content. The ending is disturbing, compelling and breathtaking. Unforgettable. "

***The Book Pl@ce***

"A remarkably taut and chilling thriller that kept me reading well past my bedtime...Bonaverò's tight and claustrophobic plot had me riveted to my chair...I came away from this novel feeling energized and entertained...  
A minor masterpiece."

***Therapsheet***

"Boats have provided some of the best comedy in literature, as well as some of the most engaging thrillers, from Erskine Childers' *The Riddle of the Sands* to last year's disturbing mystery thriller *Something in the Sea* by Yves Bonaverò"

***Financial Times***