**Whispering Through Water** YA Contemporary, Social Issues, Family, Coming of Age 1.4.23





Rebecca Wenrich Wheeler was raised in West Point, a small town in the Tidewater region of Virginia. From the moment she submitted her first short story to a young author's contest in second grade, Rebecca knew she wanted to be a writer. Her love of writing led her to earn a BA in English and an MEd in English education. She spent several years as a high school teacher, during which she also developed a passion for mental health advocacy. Rebecca completed an MA in professional counseling and now serves as an elementary school counselor and college adjunct psychology instructor. Rebecca teaches yoga for the young and the young at heart, and she likes to infuse yoga and breathwork in her counseling practice wherever she can. She believes the most valuable use of her time is teaching youth how to love and care for each other and the world around them. Her stories share this focus on positive relationships and a love of nature. Rebecca now lives in Durham, North Carolina, with her husband, two children, and two spoiled Siamese cats.



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### What Reviewers Are Saying ...

"The author tells a sweet tale that will appeal to YA readers. Still, Gwyn is a welldrawn character who is friendly and inquisitive, and her eventful summer after high school is a milestone a lot of readers will relate to. "



"Wheeler's latest is a gripping comingof-age story that explores women's independence amid a plot full of mystery and romance. It also highlights the shame many unwed mothers faced in the 1950s and 1960s as well as the unimaginable heartache they faced due to societal pressures. A great read from Wheeler."



#### -Booklist

"While the narrative involves a lot of mystery and high-school life, Gwyn Madison's story is also one of love, courage, and perseverance. It is also a reminder of how we should fight for and protect what we love the most. On a different note, this journey through love and redemption is a story of sacrifice and new beginnings."



5 STARS - Reader's Favorite





Illustrator - Terri Moore

# \* Book Blurb

Whispering Through Water navigates family dynamics, young love, and female autonomy with a little 1990s nostalgia.

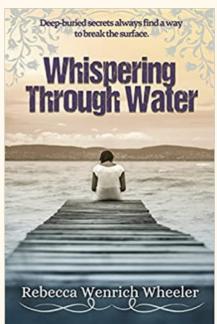
The coming-of-age story follows Gwyn Madison, the summer after her high school graduation, as grapples with her fast-approaching future. She'll have to face more than she bargained for with her Aunt Delia, the family matriarch, who holds the purse strings and the final word. In the meantime, Gwyn stumbles upon a tightly held family secret. Could a mysterious letter provide Gwyn the leverage she desires? Will it only bring more family division? Or, maybe, the past was never meant to stay buried after all.

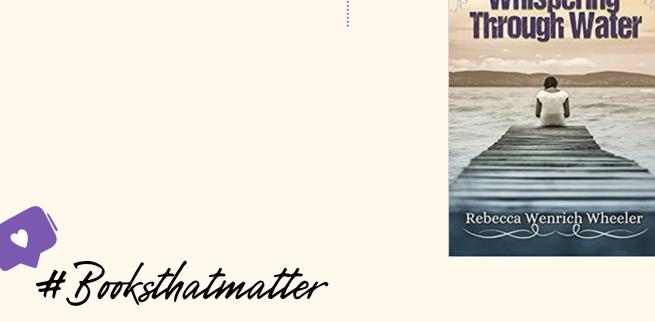


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#### Rebecca Wenrich Wheeler, Author, Educator, & Mental Health Advocate

Rebecca is a caring and passionate speaker who loves to share about the author's journey! She's also a mental health advocate and has spent years serving youth. Rebecca would love to speak to your audience about the author's life, encouraging youth to go after their authentic voice, and share how words matter.









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