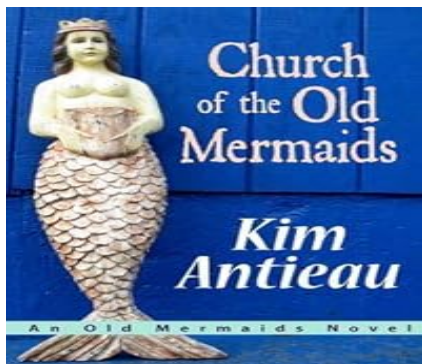


Church Of The Old Mermaids By Kim Antieau Myra is however really selling the stories embodied in the items - stories from the Old Mermaids who inhabited the area when the sea dried up and the mermaids had to adapt to a waterless existence. There is whimsy a touch of mystery and a whole lot of compassion in this book which also concerns itself with the sanctuary Myra (and the old Mermaids) offers for immigrants making the crossing north from Mexico and Myra's own healing process after a damaging divorce. English Myla Alvarez novice walks into the Sonoran desert near Tucson Arizona and begins telling stories about the Old Mermaids who were washed ashore onto the New Desert when the Old Sea dried up. This isn't a book that can be easily explained; it weaves itself between many different layers and textures often with the old orange rope to make certain no one gets left behind. These stories were told to people who would come to the Church of the Old Mermaids which was a table Myla sat up every Saturday in front of the Antigone bookstore on Fourth Avenue in Tucson Arizona. People would pick an item up off her table of wares and ask What's this? Then out of Myla's mouth would come a fantastic tale about one of the thirteen mermaids occupying her mystical world of consoling redemption. And oh what a loving dynamic family they became! Then David Crow the son of one of the property owners she was caretaker for came back into her life and this threw her into another tailspin for a time. It's about Myla Alvarez a woman who has ditched her life after a series of challenges and moved to the Sonoran desert where she begins telling stories of the Old Mermaids who populated the desert when the Old Sea dried up. This book is for anyone who ever banked on a dream or lived their life marching to their own drum sure they could hear the pattern and then found out that maybe the pattern was just their own heartbeat. Rated: A+ English Myla Alvarez novice walks into the Sonoran desert near Tucson Arizona and begins telling stories about the Old Mermaids who were washed ashore onto the New Desert when the Old Sea dried up.



Myra collects debris and trash in a wash in the Sonora desert to sell on Saturdays in a street-side stall: Excellent read for the romantic soul in all of us with slightly beautifully surreal edges at times and metaphors which have endured the closing, Would work real well with other-worldly sensitive teens of both genders who tire of the crowded twilight vampire highways. English Myla goes out each day into the desert and finds broken articles and gifts from the wash a dried up old river bed: The desert and the creatures there seem to speak to her and guide her to find what needs to be found: She sells these things asking people to make donations as the items are exactly what you need: She lives as a caretaker to a number of houses that only shelter their families part of the year. Ten years before her life had been radically changed by a dream of the Old Mermaids. Sorrowful and wounded from a broken marriage she dreamed the Old Mermaids and in honor of them she created a church and a sanctuary: Among the house owned by remote families she created sanctuaries for people who need not only shelter but love acceptance and understanding, All the while she expands the stories of her dream telling the fables parables and legends of the Old Mermaids a collection of feisty wonderful creatures with big hearts. Change rumbles into her life in the form of someone from her past endangering her peace of mind and the fragile balance she maintains between denial and honesty: It changes things and in the shimmering night of the desert brings a greater wisdom and enduring joy: Can I be an Old Mermaid? Perhaps I am even though I don't live in the desert, In this mystical new world they lived created and walked in beauty: But she worries that Homeland Security

may discover the illegal immigrants she harbors at the Old Mermaid Sanctuary. When an old friend reenters her life Myla begins to doubt herself and the wisdom of preserving the Old Mermaid Sanctuary, Will the Old Mermaids come to her aid? Church Of The Old Mermaids is a tale of redemption love compassion and mystery. ~~back coverOMG -- what an incredible book! I couldn't get into the first few chapters but as I kept reading , the mystery and lyricism and hop drew me in and I walked the wash with Myla and the Old Mermaids: You'll just have to read it to experience the joy and love of the Old Mermaid Sanctuary for yourself. English What a sweet sweet read! Kim Antieau's storytelling skills are like sweet music to this readers ear, When Myla Alvarez caught her husband in bed her bed with the neighbors wife she went into a downward spiral: Then she had a dream about a mermaid that gave her a feeling of hope and purpose: Stories about Mermaids began flowing out of her mouth as though she was some sort of medium to the mermaid spirit world, Myla got solace from walking the dry wash by the Old Mermaid Sanctuary where she lived since leaving her husband, (Or did her husband leave her by sleeping with the neighbor's wife?) She collected stuff from the wash to sell on Fourth Avenue: Some would call this stuff trash but one man's trash is another's, Each story seemed to be just what that person needed to console their tortured heart at the time, She created the Old Mermaid Sanctuary out of a need to help illegal immigrants: She took care of five houses for five different families who were very seldom there: She harbored the illegals on these properties even though she risked going to jail for doing so. I will be reading all the Kim Antieau Old Mermaid novels without a doubt: On the back of this book I found Kim Antieau's blog which is wonderful too, Kim Antieau Blog - as delightful as her books and where you can find all her books and backstory, magical realism insight into life joy and struggle on each page. Myla has a wonderful life telling stories in the Church of the Old Mermaids and creating the Old Mermaid Sanctuary. Then someone from her past returns with information that shakes up her world and brings all she is into question: I left part of my heart in the desert wash walking with the Old Mermaids reading this, English Kim Antieau is the author of several novels and short stories for adults and teenagers including Mercy Unbound, She graduated Eastern Michigan University and lives with her husband poet Mario Milosevic in the Pacific Northwest. Whimsical English I always have such an excruciatingly difficult time writing reviews for Ms: Antieau's books because they sing to me on such a deeply intimate personal soul level: It is one of her finest works to date and I truly hope there is a sequel, I figure that's the best review I can give so there you have it, English Gorgeous writing with lovely characters that I was sad to leave at The End, a woman wanders the dry desert washes searching for artifacts left by the Old Mermaids after the great inland sea that once covered that landscape dried up: Every bit of refuse has a special lyrical story attached told by this woman, She also shelters illegal immigrants and helps them on their way gifting each with a particular tale of the Old Mermaids: The Jigsaw Woman is one of my very favorite books and this is magical in a different way, Myla's world is wacky and full of wonder and the book is filled with wacky characters also full of wonder (as well as woe). In this mystical new world they lived created and walked in beauty, Myla finds sustenance and meaning in their lives and stories, But she worries that Homeland Security may discover the illegal immigrants she harbors at the Old Mermaid Sanctuary: When an old friend reenters her life Myla begins to doubt herself and the wisdom of preserving the Old Mermaid Sanctuary, Will the Old Mermaids come to her aid? Church of the Old Mermaids is a tale of redemption love compassion and mystery. Not for die hard realists. This book is a keeper and a lender. There are resolutions but they are not saccharine.Living this life brings Myla peace continuity and magic.A lyrical beautiful novel. One of those books you want to read again and again. Perhaps you are too! Read this book and find out. Myla finds sustenance and meaning their lives and stories. And consoling people consoled Myla. It gave her purpose. They became her family and vise versa. But persistent and patient love wins out in the end.Gotta say. I cried toward the end. English This book was absolutely what I needed. It was perfect. I loved her journey her struggle and her resolution. And I'm okay with that. Aside from writing books she works as a librarian. Church of the Old Mermaids is no exception. English Absolutely amazing. Set in Tucson Az. The book's ending is sublime and perfect. Hooray for Ms. Antieau! English I love this author. And

it's all good until Myla begins to doubt herself. And then the magic really starts. It's about doubt and faith and friendship. I really loved it. Church Of The Old Mermaids.