

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**New children’s book “Island Girls: Free the Sea of Plastic” by Blair Northen Williamson is released, a tale of two young sisters inspired to clean up the ocean and protect their aquatic friends**

“Island Girls: Free the Sea of Plastic” by Blair Northen Williamson has been released worldwide. This 24-page children’s book follows Sadie and Josie, two sisters living with their parents on a sailboat for the summer, as they discover the harm that ocean plastic is causing for their turtle friends. Surprised and dismayed, the sisters rush to help the turtles, who are mistaking plastic bags for delicious jellyfish.

Realizing the problem is larger than a few plastic bags, the girls – with the assistance of their parents – are inspired to make a difference! They make signs, take photos, write letters, and do everything they can to advocate for their friends in the sea... and they’re just getting started!

Tackling an important issue and educating young readers about the danger of ocean plastics, Williamson brings a lighthearted tone to environmental issues and shows kids how they can get involved.

*Island Girls: Free the Sea of Plastic* (ISBN: 9781662932489 / 9781662932472) can be purchased through retailers worldwide, including Barnes and Noble and Amazon. The paperback retails for \$9.50, the hardcover retails for \$19.99, and the ebook retails for \$4.99. Wholesale orders are available through Ingram. Review copies and interviews are available upon request.

**From the back cover:**

Inspired by a true story, *Island Girls: Free the Sea of Plastic* empowers children to help their under-the-sea friends and use their voices to fight against plastic in our oceans. When sisters Sadie and Josie discover their turtle friends think plastic bags are tasty jellyfish, they take a stand to spread awareness about plastics polluting our precious oceans. *Island Girls: Free the Sea of Plastic* is a masterfully illustrated celebration of the beautiful underwater world and a call for all of us to make a change and free the sea of plastic.

**About the author:**

Blair Northen Williamson is from Richmond, Virginia but spent much of her childhood on the coast of North Carolina where she developed a passion for the ocean. After graduating from the University of Virginia, her love of nature, the ocean, and relating to others led her to work for Global Expeditions Group for over a decade. She spent many years working as a sailing captain and scuba diving instructor in the British Virgin Islands and Southeast Asia, where she experienced the problem of plastics in our oceans too many times.

Encouraged by Robert Swan's quote, "The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it," Williamson decided to take action. Seeking to inspire change and empower children by spreading awareness about the danger of plastics in our oceans, Williamson wrote her debut picture book, *Island Girls: Free the Sea of Plastic*.

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