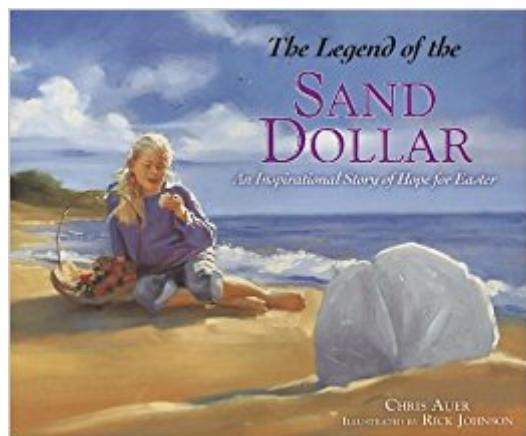


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# The Legend Of The Sand Dollar: An Inspirational Story Of Hope For Easter



## **Synopsis**

Eight-year-old Kerry loves the ocean. But on this visit to the beach, she discovers a little-known treasure and learns of the story of Easter revealed in the sand dollar. Now you and your child can discover the story behind this small ocean treasure as stunning illustrations form the backdrop for this familiar seaside legend. Seen through the eyes of children, *The Legend of the Sand Dollar* shares the timeless hope of resurrection and new life—the promise of Easter.

## **Book Information**

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

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## **Customer Reviews**

A story of the hope of resurrection and new life symbolized in the sand dollar; for ages 4-8 Margaret, age fifteen, and Kerry, age eight, are sisters from the urban North and are sent to visit their Aunt Jane, who lives in a tidewater area on the rural southern coast. Kerry doesn't know why she has been sent away, only that her mother and father are fighting. Kerry finds reassurance, however, in a new friend—a cheerful boy named Jack who plies the waterways of the marshy tidewater in his little dinghy as he searches for crabs. Jack is only twelve, but seems wise beyond his years because he is in tune with the ebb and flow of nature and the wisdom of the seasons. He knows life is designed to be full of change. Jack uses Kerry's discovery of a sand dollar; and the coming Easter season; to help her see that the pain and uncertainty she feels now is but a "season." The story of Jesus' suffering and resurrection as reflected in the sand dollar serves as a parallel to her pain. Kerry learns that with God's help she can have

hope for a better future. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Chris Auer, an Emmy nominated screenwriter, is the author of *Molly & the Good Shepherd*, *The Littlest Magi*, the *2:52 Mysteries of Eckert House* series, and he adapted *The Legend of the Candy Cane* for video. He teaches screenwriting and producing at Savannah College of Art and Design. Chris is passionate about storytelling and hopes to reflect the reality of God in the lives of children through story. He lives in Savannah, Georgia. Rick Johnson lives in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, with his wife, Gail, and their two children.

I just bought this book for my daughter for Easter, and as I was reading it aloud, it just read awkward. It starts out with two girls, one teenaged (Margaret), and the other early elementary (Kerry). They are on the way to a cabin by the ocean. The younger one, Kerry, has tears streaming down her cheeks. The illustrations show us she is visibly upset at having to leave Mom and Dad. This seems to be set up as the conflict of the story: why is this family being (temporarily) separated? We know they will be reunited soon, but they don't appear at the end of the story, although their arrival is anticipated. This part of the story seems completely pointless because it has nothing to do with the rest of the narrative. We never find out why they had to travel alone, and away. Upon arrival at the cabin, Kerry is happy to see her cousin Jack show up, and he boats her out to an island and they find sand dollars. He then illustrates to her how the markings on a sand dollar represent Christ, both from the Easter and Christmas stories. Kerry thinks that is really cool (and it is! This is the high point of the story). They return to the cabin. Kerry shows Margaret the sand dollar and tells her the story. Margaret is delighted. The story ends abruptly. I like the main point of the story, but how the reader arrives at it feels very contrived. The author went to a lot of work getting Kerry onto the island to find the sand dollars. Kerry was also put through the trauma of being separated from her folks (it can be rough being a fictional character, of course). My daughter was concerned about Kerry's tears, and that concern had absolutely nothing to do with the legend of the sand dollar. In my dream world, if I was the editor, I would have pushed for more about the sand dollar - have a character open the bible (or quote it from memory), showing how scripture supports this legend. Use a couple pages to really drive this home. One page describing the features of the sand dollar was all this was devoted to. It just didn't feel like enough. Why did Kerry and Jack have to go to an island? (And, my bored daughter pointed out they weren't wearing life jackets.) Why couldn't they find this on a beach right where they were, or have a kind stranger or their aunt tell them about it? Or they could have traveled with their parents and found the sand dollars as a whole family; then a parent could have

said something like, "When I was a kid, Grandpa told me this story...". There could have been illustrations of the elements of the sand dollar with their real counterparts...nails and a spear for the holes, for example. They could have gathered sand dollars and handed them out at church on Easter. Or to the neighbors. I'm not sure what, but this just fell flat - fast. The ending consisted of Kerry showing it to her sister. It felt like it was tacked on for the sake of ending the story. Nice illustrations. Good idea for the book; poor execution.

I bought this for a 7 year old girl who likes Sand Dollars, I always read the books before I give them and was really impressed with this book. I seen the child a week after she had received the book and she was delighted, she had used it for a school project, part of the book also has history on the Sand Dollar, you will not be disappointed

He loved it

Love sand dollars to open so doves come out. Am using book with my Faith Formation class and real sand dollars to make Mother's Day pictures.

It was a great book for little sister who is 8, she was eager to learn the history of sand dollar and story was great,

Wonderful story. A little different than I remember. As a child, I do not believe the story was told as a story exclusively for Easter. Even so, this is a beautiful story identifying Christ in nature. There is evidence of Him in creation, and that is very cool.

The children I gave it to were pleased with it and the sand dollars I included. The message is timely any season of the year.

A great gift for any young reader along with a sand dollar so they can see for themselves what the story means.

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