



## At Wave's End

*Patricia Perry Donovan*

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After a childhood as unpredictable as the flip of a coin, Faith Sterling has finally found her comfort zone in the kitchen of an upscale Manhattan restaurant. A workaholic chef, at least there she's in control. So when her free-spirited and often-gullible mother, Connie, calls to announce that she's won a bed-and-breakfast on the Jersey Shore, Faith's patience boils over. Convinced the contest is a scam, she rushes to Wave's End to stop Connie from trading her steady job for an uncertain future.

When a hurricane ravages the coast, Faith is torn between supporting the shore rescue and bailing out her beleaguered boss. But the storm dredges up deceptions and emotional debris that threaten to destroy the inn's future and her fragile bonds with her mother.

As the women struggle to salvage both the inn and their relationship, Faith begins to see herself and Connie in a new light—and to realize that some moments are better left to chance.

## At Wave's End Details

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## From Reader Review At Wave's End for online ebook

### Lindsey says

3.5 stars

Thank you to the author, netgalley and Lake Union for providing me with an advanced copy in exchange for an honest review.

At Wave's End is to honor and is reminiscent of Hurricane Sandy. I don't think I've ever read a book about a natural disaster before, so this was a nice first for me. I thoroughly enjoyed this quick, happy read about family and perseverance. It kept me turning pages. There was such a variety of great characters; it has a little something for everyone. There was also just the right amount of tragedy. I loved that everything was wrapped up and resolved by the end; there were no loose ends. I look forward reading more of Donovan's work.

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### Booksandchinooks (Laurie) says

I received a free copy of this book from Netgalley and the author for an honest review. Faith is a NYC chef in a new up and coming restaurant. Her mother, Connie, is a bit irresponsible and flighty so for years Faith has tried to keep her focused toward having a permanent job and preparing her finances for retirement. To Faith's surprise and shock her mother enters a contest and wins an Inn on the Jersey Shore. Once they arrive there Faith's instincts are confirmed when they see how run down the Inn is. Faith is back in NYC as a major storm is forecast. Very reminiscent of Hurricane Sandy. Faith returns to check on her mom and ends up staying temporarily to help out. They take in displaced people who all become like family. It was so heartwarming to meet these people and hear about their lives. Faith and Connie also begin to understand each other better and their relationship improves. This is a feel good book about people caring for and helping each other.

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### Linda Zagon says

#### MY REVIEW OF "AT WAVE'S END" by PATRICIA PERRY DONOVAN

I appreciate the way that Patricia Perry Donovan, author for "At Wave's End" writes about the devastations of a Hurricane, and how her amazing storytelling skills depict the community and people. The genre of this book is fiction, but it is based on the devastation of Hurricane Sandy 5 years ago. In this novel, the Hurricane is called Nadine, and Nadine is a formidable force to deal with. The timeline of the story is in the present, and the location takes place mainly on the Jersey Shore, and also in Brooklyn, New York, and Miami.

The author describes her characters as complex and complicated, possibly due to the nature of the situation. The characters are strong, courageous, colorful, quirky, and are like many of the people in our neighborhoods. The characters in this story are diverse. The characters have problems and secrets that affect

their lives. I found the story intriguing, and bonded with many of the characters.

Faith Sterling is a chef working in Brooklyn, and often has disagreements with her mother Connie, who at times does compulsive things. It seems that Connie has entered a contest and "won" a Bed and Breakfast Inn called "Wave's End" located at the Jersey shore. Of course, " Waves End" is not as it appears in the pictures, and needs much repair work to make it more presentable. Faith heads to the Jersey shore when a Hurricane is imminent to help her mother.

The hurricane causes a tremendous amount of damage displacing families, their pets, and their belongings. Power is out. In the worst of circumstances, the best in people can be seen. People in the community band together to help one another. "Wave's End" Inn is used to give temporary housing to those people in the community who have lost their homes.

Even in times of adversity, the author shows how the people in the community help one another in ways that they can. The author discusses the importance of family, friends, love, and hope.

I liked almost all the characters, and I certainly hope that Patricia Perry Donovan writes another book about them. I highly recommend this novel for readers who enjoy fiction, romance and colorful characters. Happy Reading!

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### **Amber says**

Thank you to the author for providing me with a copy of the book in exchange for my honest review.

I really enjoyed reading this book. First and foremost, it had a fantastic cast of characters. Everybody had such a distinct personality while fitting so perfectly into the story. And these personalities were all over the board, from strong and stubborn to mild and compassionate, keeping the reader on their toes and the story feeling fresh. It also prevented the characters from blending into one another.

And then there's the story itself: the quirky mother who is always signing up for every contest she can find who ends up winning an inn on the Jersey Shore that, unsurprisingly, turns out to be not quite as it was advertised, and the daughter who is trying to save said mother from financial ruin which she is certain will be the result of this prize package. And then the unexpected severity of the hurricane, leading to the unexpected influx of boarders.

All of these characteristics worked together to create an engaging and emotional story. I went from laughing to feeling heartbroken and back to laughter (and vice versa) so many times throughout these pages, and I loved it. The storyline never felt stale. I also loved that I was able to identify or empathize with a little bit of something about each character. That type of connection always helps to make it feel more real. And the messages of hope, love, and resilience that permeate this story really make it a fantastic read. This one is definitely worth adding to your to-read pile.

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### **Kate Olson says**

**A story of family, friends and rebuilding perfect for fans of Debbie Macomber and Susan Mallery.**

*Thanks to the author and Net Galley for providing me with a digital review copy of this title - all opinions are my own.*

Written to honor the survivor's of 2012's Hurricane Sandy, AT WAVE'S END is a feel-good story that will satisfy readers of contemporary women's fiction. Faith's journey from NYC chef to a reluctant assistant at her mother's run-down bed and breakfast in a coastal New Jersey town is set against the backdrop of fictional Hurricane Nadine, but closely mirrors the events of Sandy and showcases the true devastation in the areas hardest hit by the storm. The story is a light one, however, and covers a great deal of ground with a large cast of characters. If you like your stories a little on the frothy side and tied up with a bow, this one is for you.

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### **Elizabeth of Silver's Reviews says**

You won a bed and breakfast in yet another contest, Mom? Please say I am not hearing you correctly?

Poor Faith. Her mother, Connie, has always entered contests ever since she was a child and has never won, but then she wins this one which seems unbelievable because of the prize. Connie has won this prize after writing an essay about why she should win the bed and breakfast, and Connie is determined to come all the way from New Mexico to claim and see her prize.

Faith lives in New York City and accompanies her mother to the bed and breakfast at Wave's End at the Jersey Shore. As predicted, the place is in bad shape and nothing like the pictures in the contest.

As Faith argues with her mother about the "prize," a hurricane is making its way up the coast. Faith goes back to New York and then returns as the hurricane is gaining in intensity to make sure her mother is safe.

Faith finds more than she wants to find when she returns with her mother's impulsiveness being a very big problem this time.

AT WAVE'S END is an enjoyable read with characters that were very believable and lovable. A mother/daughter team is always a treat because it can go two ways: the best it can be or the worst it can be. :)

You will be comparing your relationship with your mother and might see some similarities as well as differences.

Secrets kept for a long time and finally revealed are part of AT WAVE'S END, but do they bring mother and daughter closer or farther apart?

Food was another major component with three of the characters being chefs, and who doesn't like to talk about food and gorgeous kitchens?

If you need a fun, light, heartwarming read that shows the resiliency of and the generosity of mankind, then you will not want to miss AT WAVE'S END.

It has something for everyone and the reason I enjoy women's fiction....family, love, tenderness, surprises, a few tears, and warmth.

ENJOY!! I certainly did. 5/5

This book was given to me free of charge and without compensation by the author in return for an honest review.

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### **Caryn says**

Full review and giveaway on my blog: <http://www.thebookwhisperer.org/2018/...>

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### **Deborah Blanchard says**

First of all, this is going to be a difficult review to write in the wake of Hurricane Harvey and the people of Texas. My thoughts and prayers go out to them all.

This too is about a hurricane, Hurricane Nadine, in Wave's End. There was a lot of devastation in this coastal town , but this is a book about resilience and survival. It is about a community that comes together to help one another. It is a story of loss, love, compassion, empathy and strength. This is the story about Faith and her Mom, Connie, who won a bed and breakfast in Wave's End, just as it is hit with a hurricane. It is about the people of Wave's End coming together to help each other and it turn, it helps the relationship between Faith and her Mom. I must say that I loved this story. It is more about the love of people than about the Hurricane itself. It made me cry and laugh. It is a story of hope. It is a book that will make you feel. The characters, main and secondary, are richly developed and the story is a seamlessly woven tapestry. It flows like a river from beginning to end. It is a quick read, because you just don't want to put it down. Hope abounds in this book and it is truly a pleasure to have read it. Pick it up and see for yourself. This is a work of fiction, but to all those now and in the past who have gone through hurricane's, you are in my heart.

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### **Bethany Clark says**

What a nice spring read! I love the way in which Patricia writes. I could picture the shore, The Mermaid's Purse, and all the quirky characters perfectly!

There are several conflicts throughout the story - mother/daughter, mother/son, boyfriend/girlfriend, town/storm and so many others.

The main conflict, faith v. herself. What does she want for her life? Can she reconnect with her mother and work through the past mistakes? Can she learn to let go and live the life that she was intended to live?

All these questions and more are answered and I loved the trials and tribulations every step of the way. The crazy family unit of The Mermaid's Purse will pull at your heartstrings and leave you wanting more.

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## **Dawn Gaskin says**

### **Good summer read**

Good character development, compelling relationships. Feel good story for those times you need your spirits lifted. Sometimes predictable is good.

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## **Amy says**

All of my reviews can be found on [www.novelgossip.com](http://www.novelgossip.com)

You guys know I'm a huge sucker for a pretty cover and this one is swoon worthy! Anything beach themed grabs my eye, and while this is set near the ocean, there's a twist. This isn't about some amazing vacation where the characters sit with a fruity cocktail in their hand, it's a story about what happens after tragedy strikes in the form of a devastating hurricane and how several people are effected and changed by it. It's a beach read with depth and heart, it explores family bonds as well as the bonds that can be formed quickly between strangers when a natural disaster strikes. There is a little something for everyone, a hint of a mystery, some love and romance, and some wonderful themes and lessons.

The characters in At Wave's End are great, they're very realistic and wholly relatable. Faith is a chef based in NYC who heads to Wave's End to help her mom, Connie after Hurricane Nadine hits. Both women are flawed and have made plenty of mistakes in their lives, they haven't had the easiest relationship, but aren't mother/daughter relationships always tricky?! When they team up to help the residents of Wave's End they become a force to be reckoned with and I loved watching them grow and change throughout the story. There is a great cast of secondary characters that also undergo tremendous growth and seeing them all band together restored my faith in humanity a bit.

The Mermaid's Purse is the inn that Connie wins in a lottery and despite it being rundown, there is something magical about it. The entire setting has a bit of magic to it as seeing the community come together was such an inspiration. The kindness of strangers was heartwarming and the resiliency of the people effected by the hurricane was amazing. This was a really lovely read full of heart, strength and meaningful relationships developed during a tragic event, I truly enjoyed this one.

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## **Deb says**

I read and enjoyed Patricia Perry Donovan's first book Deliver Her for a TLC Book Tour last year so when she contacted me several months ago and asked if I would read and review her new book, At Wave's End, I agreed of course. My good intentions to read and review the book when it published in August didn't quite happen. I did read and enjoy the book but did not get around to making a dish and posting a review. Since then several states and communities--most recently Puerto Rico--have suffered severe hurricane damage, which makes a book about it very current. As I read through the book again, deciding on a dish to make for my usual book and food pairing, my thoughts and heart are with all of those who are suffering the after-effects of storms like the book's fictional Hurricane Nadine (based after Hurricane Sandy back in 2012).

At Wave's End is about more than a hurricane on the Jersey Shore, it's about the relationship between a

mother and daughter, and a book about taking chances and finding yourself--all things I enjoy reading about. With the main character Faith, being a chef, it also has an strong element of foodie fiction in it. As in her first book, Perry Donovan creates characters that are believable and relatable. Both Faith and her somewhat flighty mother Connie are engaging, as are the supporting characters--mainly the people that stay in the bed and breakfast due to the storm. Faith's harder edges soften and are understandable when you look at her upbringing and Connie has hidden depths to her personality that are not easily seen at the beginning of the story. Despite having heavy topics like the storm and its aftermath worked into the story, overall At Wave's End leans to the lighter side--there is romance, plenty of food, a balance of humorous and poignant moments, and the way the community comes together in a difficult time is heartwarming. A very enjoyable read and I look forward to the author's next book.

You can see my review as well as a recipe inspired by my reading on my blog post here:  
[https://kahakaikitchen.blogspot.com/2...](https://kahakaikitchen.blogspot.com/2018/09/at-waves-end.html)

Note: A free copy of At Wave's End was provided to me by the author for review. I was not compensated for my review and as always, my thoughts and opinions are my own.

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### **Jen says**

What has Connie gotten herself into this time? Faith, sweet, frustrated Faith, has had it to the moon and stars with her mother's contest entries and pyramid schemes. Each time, will be the time it will work out. This time is, of course, no different. Connie is so close to retirement and pension when she up and wins a B&B on the Jersey coast by writing an essay to the current owner. Faith, let's just say, is a little less than thrilled. A chef in NYC, she has rescued her mother more times than she can count and is not looking forward to having to do it again. Donovan whips up a wonderful tale of mother and daughter at odds, during a hurricane no less. Each dealing with their own issues, separately and together, throw in some whacky local charm, some unexpected guests, and you have yourself a wonderful book to ride out the storm.

I'd like to thank the author, Patricia Perry Donovan, and Lake Union Publishing for the honor of receiving this book in exchange for an unbiased review and of course NetGalley for the technology to make it possible.

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### **Catherine Faulkenburg says**

This book is too long. It started out strong and then it just kept going. And going. And going. Perhaps a stronger edit would have made this book a better read, because the characters are pretty well done, there are just too many meandering plot points that never go anywhere. I wanted to like this book but it just wasn't for me. I would have quit but I was too far into it.

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### **Shalini says**

A must-read book on mother daughter relationship. Faith is exasperated with her mother's naivety and innocent mind when she gets duped by scammers. But the latest was when she supposedly wins a bed-and-breakfast inn, Mermaid's Purse which is nothing like the picture depicted. Faith is at wit's end with

this Mermaid's Purse at Wave's End. A cyclone Nadine destroys the town and brings out the physical and emotional upheavals...

This is my first book by the author Patricia Perry Donovan, and what a beautiful read it was. It was everything the story promised and more. She has done a fabulous job describing a mother and daughter relationship sometimes coated with frustration, with anger, fights, skirmishes, arguments, but always on the background of love.

I love stories like this, where love is depicted in so many ways. The author has made the main character Faith as the too controlling street smart daughter, who learns to calm down and start trusting her mother, and the mother Connie, as the naive and innocent victim of most online scams, who learns to be confident and start trusting herself.

I loved the play by play moments of emotions on the landscape of a relationship which is at tether hooks sometimes. It is due to love that Faith moves to protect her mother, it is due to love that Connie tells Faith everything, even when she knows she would be rebuked for it. Every nuance of a mother daughter relationship, including long hidden secrets, is explored here.

The author Patricia has shown a beautiful facet of humanity, a natural calamity, though it brings devastation and loss, it also brings the inner innate humane into surface. Strangers come together and show love, compassion, and life-long friendship. Such bonds, forged in moments of need, are forever bound by kindness and gratitude.

Patricia has great power over her writing, every word adds to the story, every sentence is a beautiful vision and every page reads like a scene of a movie.

The book, its story and its characters, is a tight weave of emotions, and Patricia is the weaver who joins them all together in a bond arising from destruction but surviving in friendship, with moments of hope and ever binding love...

Thank you for writing this book, Patricia, you brought me warmth and a strength to look into the brighter tomorrow. This I swear to the Moon and Stars...

I received an ARC from NetGalley and publisher, Lake Union Publishing and this is my honest and unbiased opinion.

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