

Ripping Reads No 49 May 2024



The River Sea Books by Karen Jones

Journey to the River Sea is an adventure novel by Eva Ibbotson. It is set in 1910 and is about an orphan called Maia, who travels from a boarding school in England to the Amazon in Brazil. The purpose of her journey is to live with relatives she has never met. She is accompanied on the journey by Miss Minton, who will be governess to Maia and her newfound twin cousins, Beatrice and Gwendolyn Carter.

Despite not fitting in with her relatives, Maia falls in love with her new surroundings. Two particular friends she makes are Clovis and Finn. Clovis is a child actor in a theatre troupe travelling to Manaus, but he desperately wishes to return to England and his foster mother. Finn is on the run after his father's death. His grandfather has sent investigators to find Finn and bring him back to England as heir to Westwood, the Taverner estate. Finn wishes to remain in the Amazon and find his mother's tribe, the Xanti.

The adventures of Maia, Finn and Clovis become intertwined and make for an exciting and charming book. *Journey to the River Sea* is full of small character and location details which add to the world Eva Ibbotson creates.

The sequel, *Escape to the River Sea*, was written by Emma Carroll. The main

