

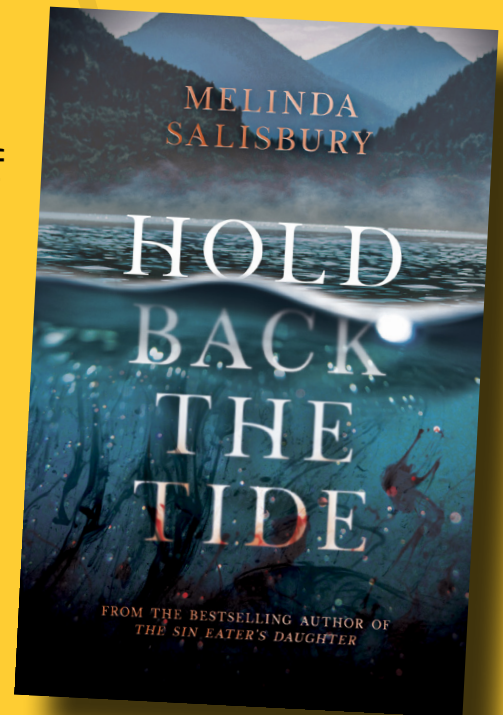


# Reader Sheet

YA Book Prize 2021 shortlist

## Hold Back the Tide Melinda Salisbury

- The first line of *Hold Back the Tide* is "Here are the rules of living with a murderer". Did this opening draw you in? What techniques did Melinda Salisbury use in the first chapter to catch readers' attention?
- The book is set by a loch in a remote part of the Scottish highlands. Do you think the setting adds something to the story? Explain your answer.
- Pick a moment in the book that you found most scary and describe how the writing in this section built suspense.
- Can you understand why Alva's father kept the loch's secret for so long? Do you think this was the right or wrong thing to do?
- What did you think of the book's ending, and why?



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