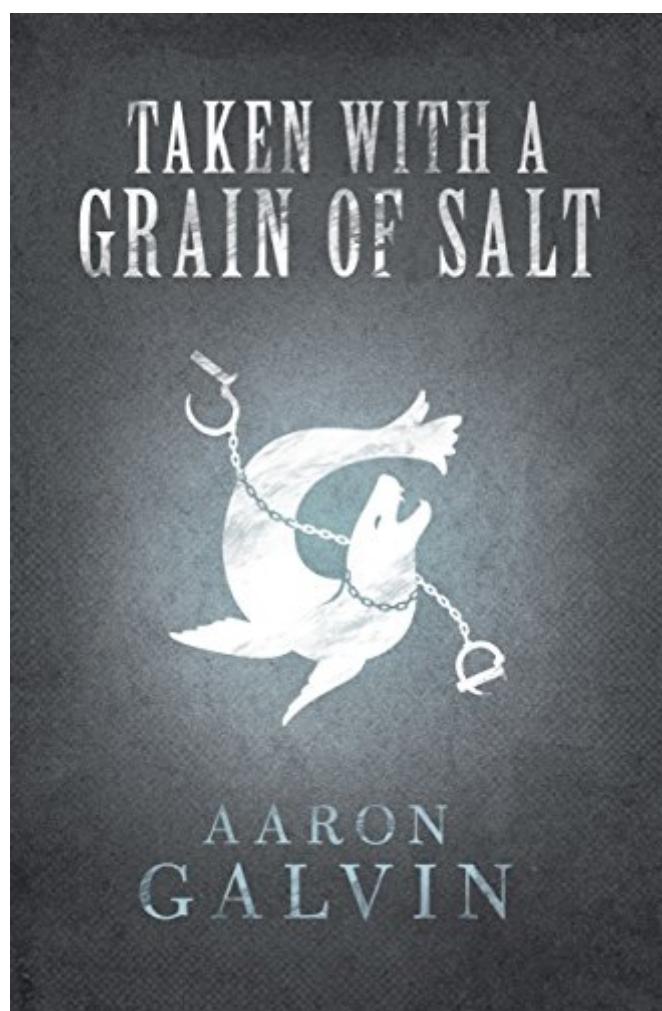


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# Taken With A Grain Of Salt (Salted Series Book 2)



## **Synopsis**

Anyone can be taken — a simple truth for Selkie slave Chidi Etienne. She escaped her master knowing freedom meant beatings or worse to those she left behind. Still, the promise of life on land and the right to choose her destiny proved too great a hope to ignore. She should have known better. While the past returns to haunt Chidi, Midwest teenagers Kellen Winstel and Garrett Weaver struggle with the ripple effect her decision to run has cost them. Kidnapped and dragged into the realm beneath the waves by Chidi's former crew, both teens are pitched into an unforgiving world where innocence is preyed upon. Even as they plot escape, Chidi and the teens must embrace their fears. For darker things than Selkies lurk in the Salted depths and none with pure intentions for those cast into their watery domain. Yet even if they escape their captors, both will need to embrace their fears. For darker things than Selkies lurk in the Salted depths and not all of them have pure intentions for the innocent ones brought down into their watery world.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

Wow! This is not a Disney mermaid story - and I love it! So much cold hard action, violence, prejudice, I could not turn the pages fast enough! And the big surprise at the end! I did not see that coming! I can't wait to read the next book!

I really enjoy this new series on selkies. Each book has an exciting adventure leading the characters into one huge event. What the event is or when it is going to happen, I don't know, but it keeps me hooked as a reader. Don't get too attached to side characters because death, peril, or 'running' does follow many of them. I strongly suggest reading / re-reading the first book in the series because this book picks up right where 'Salted' left off. At the end of the story there is a guide to who is who and what is what. It shows who is a slave of who and where the characters belong. I loved this addition and hope to see it updated as the story continues, including the deceased. Looking forward to the next book, yet not looking forward to the wait.

Great story--very engaging and interesting.

Interesting story, but a little different than I usually read. The second book in the series was more grabbing to want me to read more.

Love it. I have bought all his books. Such a talented young man. I can't wait to read his next book.

Great read

Taken With A Grain of Salt (TWAGOS) smoothly picks-up right where Salted left off and never slows down. Block some time to read this straight through and then leave extra time to recover because the pace and storylines are frenetic. A wonderful tool included in TWAGOS is an appendix which lists the characters and categorizes them by transformed state (Selkies, Drybacks, Nomads, Orcs, Merrows), plus it reminds you of who is living and who isn't at the end of Salted. Readers will find this very helpful to reference before and during reading TWAGOS. If author Aaron Galvin decides to include this feature in book three (please do!), then readers can expect it to be much longer, as TWAGOS brings a variety of new, super interesting characters to its pages. TWAGOS is told through multiple points-of-view, (Kellen's, Garrett's, Lenny's, and Chidi's), and the

characters are more fully developed than in Salted. Galvin keeps the characters separate because, in part, they have unique voices. For example, through clever dialogue, you can really hear Lenny’s Boston accent (“Hey, Weaval!”) and “Swim Fasta.” The French accent (“Whattaya doin’?”) and “Chee-dee.. .” and Henry’s (“I weel ëave you.” “I only want ze girl.”). In book two, the main characters are all trying to find their paths, fighting both internal and external battles, while morphing, both physically and mentally. The story centers mostly on Kellen and Garrett, who have been captured from the land and are now slaves. Kellen is consumed with hatred, but readers will find out more about him and may find themselves viewing him differently. Garrett is still Garrett — uncorrupted, sweet, and gentle — and is one of the few points of light and hope in the book, but there are undertones that may make readers wonder if he can remain that way for much longer. For Lenny lovers, like myself, there’s plenty of pagetime dedicated to this little Selkie who is shown to be even more dynamic and complex than he initially seemed.

Chidi’s story is perhaps the most mysterious and is absolutely heart wrenching, and her chapters will evoke some of the strongest emotions. As for the other characters, readers should prepare to loathe and love and everything in between without necessarily being able to settle on one feeling for anyone; this is certainly by design, thank you Mr. Galvin. What really makes this book great is the underwater world-building, which is vividly described and easily visualized by the reader. Galvin provides just the right details for the very intentional impressions he wants to create. (The Gasping Hole!!! I will say no more than WOW. ) Honestly, there were descriptions done so well that I would crinkle my nose because I could smell the scene being depicted. That’s some writing talent. Readers are given background through richly woven stories of the ancients and the folklore of the Salt world. The greed of the Crayfish (booooo, hisssss), the harshness of slavery, the deception, anger, and hatred of that world are always simmering, and it’s not a matter of if the whole world is going to blow-up, it’s a matter of when. The last chapters basically leave readers with four separate cliffhangers, but all the separate storylines are moving together, so the ending works well despite a million remaining questions. The advice I gave readers in Salted still stands for Taken With A Grain of Salt: don’t get too attached to anyone because the body count is high, and if there is an appendix in book three, “deceased” will be put behind many a character’s name. Death happens, almost always brutally, sometimes more graphically than others, and the

underwater world is a dark, brutal place. The issue of repeated sexual abuse is still lingering in the background, but there isn't any sex or profanity. Thank you to author Aaron Galvin for providing me a free eBook in exchange for my honest review. The book is the only kind I give. If you like this review, read it and others on my blog [kristinehallways.blogspot.com](http://kristinehallways.blogspot.com)

I received a free copy of this book during a promotion and in exchange for an honest review. I immediately fell in love with the series after reading book 1 Salted. I thought it couldn't get any better but I needed so badly to read book 2. Taken with a Grain of Salt hit the mark once again. I love how the two books flow seamlessly. I've been fascinated with mermaids ever since Disney introduced Ariel to us, but understand Ariel and her clan having nothing to do with these merfolks. I hope these books are turned into a film. At this point I'll settle for a series. I just want to see the characters on screen. Do I recommend this book....you bet I do.

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