Suspense

"Inspired by on-the-ground research, Elsie Sze weaves and then untangles a series of knots in a plot worthy of its magical locale: Kazakhstan! *Sea Fever* swept me away to a world of intrigue, a thrilling journey led by two characters whose unlikely pairing led me—in close pursuit—to the Aral Sea. It is a wonderful escape from the ordinary and a gateway to another part of the world."

-ISABEL HUGGAN, author of Belonging: Home Away from Home

"Elsie Sze tells an unforgettable and riveting story about the interconnectedness of human and ecological health and sickness and the negative consequences of human attempts to dominate nature and other people. In reading this book, we are invited to listen to the death cries of what was once a vibrant, life-sustaining sea."

— WILLIAM F. SULLIVAN, MD, CCFP, PhD; family physician, St. Michael's Hospital, University of Toronto; incoming Joseph P. Kennedy Chair in Ethics, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

"Among the greatest environmental tragedies of our time, the death of the Aral Sea at the hands of man and a regime remains the main event of the region and the heartache of Kazakhstan to this day. Elsie Sze's personal experiences, her deep cultural and historical insight, lend extraordinary authenticity to this wistful, but gripping, mystery set in modern Kazakhstan."

-AIDAR KAZYBAYEV, CEO, AIFC Green Finance Centre, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

MUSTERU AND SUSPENSE IN KAZAKHSTAN!

Sea Fever is a mystery thriller surrounding clandestine activities on Voz Island in the desiccating Aral Sea of Kazakhstan, when Ayan Kazbekov was growing up in a fishing village by the Aral in Soviet time. When two locals are murdered while taking a couple of strangers to the now-abandoned Voz Island in the post-Soviet era, Ayan and his friend Grace, the wife of an American expatriate, are incited to decipher a coded note secretly passed to Ayan before the fall of the Soviet Union by Victor, his Russian scientist friend from their university days in Moscow. Victor is not heard from again, but his note may hold clues not only to solving the locals' murders but also thwarting life-threatening dangers to humankind.

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a novel

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