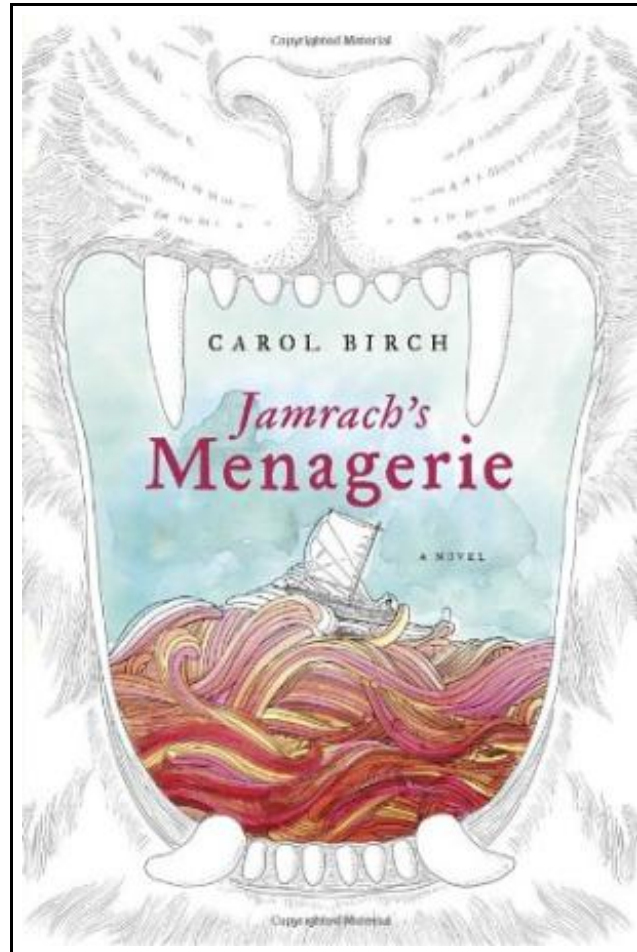


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Doubleday, 2011. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: SHORTLISTED for the 2011 Man Booker Prize for Fiction "One of the best stories I've ever read; an extraordinarily good and completely original book." --A. S. Byatt, author of *The Children's Book* in a BBC Interview "Beautifully written. Birch has created an electric and cluttered cabinet of curiosities, sprinkled with keenly heard jangles of singsongy dialogue. as the novel takes off on a three-cord braid of adventure story, survival drama and coming-of-age tale. the spirit is that of a high-seas adventure novel, a Victorian book for boys. [before] Birch begins to turn down the lights. Now we get a survival story as the crew is lost at sea. This is the novel's strongest section. hallucinatory haze. function [s] as a brilliant device. Probably the most interesting element of this novel is not its horrors, but its colorful milieu, the late-19th-century interest in naturalism. And in Jaffy, Birch has captured a boyish wonder in nature. As phantasmagoric as the mood of this novel gets, there is nothing in it that steps outside the bounds of reality, for it knows the real world is fantastic enough." -- The New York Times Book Review "Melville meets Dickens. Jamrach's Menagerie is a moving, fantastically exciting sea tale that takes you back to those great 19th-century stories that first convinced you "there is no frigate like a book". One of the magical qualities of Birch's story is that it gives that sense of Dickensian sprawl and scope even though it's spun in fewer than 300 pages. Another wonder of this novel is sweet Jaffy's dynamic voice, which evolves from the wide-eyed enthusiasms of boyhood to the weary melancholy of middle age. In the early pages, everything comes to us teeming with the lush sensory overload of his 8-year-old mind, a...

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