**Book Review- *All the Murmuring Bones* by A. G. Slatter**

If you like your mermaids terrifying and your fairytales a bit gory, then you will probably enjoy *All the Murmuring Bones*. The story centers around Miren O’Malley, the last of a very peculiar family who once made a fortune from the sea-trade, but who have now faded into poverty and ruin. Miren’s grandmother has a plan to restore the family fortunes, but it involves a terrible sacrifice for Miren, who must unravel the O’Malley’s strange history with the sea and its creatures, as well as the fate of the parents she never knew.

 *All the Murmuring Bones* takes place in a very well developed fantasy world that is still very grounded in reality, which I feel is a notable accomplishment for a fantasy novel. I was particularly fond of the gothic flavor, which manages to evoke the horror of H.P. Lovecraft’s grotesque sea-dwellers and mad families, and also a good deal of traditional Irish folklore. Additionally, Miren meets several characters over the course of her journey who have fascinating backstories, and I would have happily read a whole book dedicated to the traveling circus and its singing automation or the assassin queen and her spies.