**The Rattled Bones**

**By S. M. Parker**

**About the Book**

*Find Me.*The words haunt eighteen-year-old Rilla Brae. They follow her wherever she goes. A message that started with a ghostly voice singing from the depths of the stormy seas surrounding Rilla's small Maine town. And then the visions started.

Of a girl around her age. In trouble. Reaching out to Rilla. *Come here, come here*, she sings.

Worried she might be losing her mind, Rilla tries to blink these visions away. Especially when Sam Taylor--a first-year archeology student--appears, exploring the mysterious island off Maine's coast. Not a lot of people know the history of the island. Or, rather, they don't talk about it. Don't discuss it.

Yet the more she and Sam unearth the island's many secrets, the stronger Rilla's visions grow. The more the girl appears. Rilla can feel the girl's pain, the sadness. Her fear. Soon it becomes clear that there might be more to these visions than simple hallucinations. And that the truth behind the mysterious island may be the key in helping the girl.

But how can Rilla help someone only she can see?

It's a riddle Rilla already knows the answer to. An answer that's been whispered to her in the middle of the night. Sung to her over the ocean's whistling waves. Carved into the wood of her bedroom window:
**FIND ME.**

**About the Author**

Shannon M. Parker is an author and educator. She holds degrees in English Literature, Linguistics and Educational Leadership from Saint Michael's College, UMass Boston and University of Southern Maine respectively. She lives in New England with her family.

**If you enjoyed this book*:***

* First We Were IV by Alexandra Sirowy
* The Wicked Deep by Shea Ernshaw
* Black Bird of the Gallows by Meg Kassel
* Now I Rise (And I Darken) by Kiersten White
* Isle of Blood and Stone by Makiia Lucier

**Discussion Questions**

1. What did you like about the book? Dislike?
2. Do you think the atmosphere of the book was right for a ghost story? Did you find it unsettling? Or did it fall flat?
3. Discuss the different characters in the book. Who was your favorite? Least favorite? Explain why.
4. Talk about the family relationships in this book, and how they’re compared: Rilla and her dad and grandmother, Reed and his grandfather, Hattie and her mother.
5. When Rilla is debating whether or not to go to college, what did you want her to do? Why?
6. The historical part of this story is based on fact. There are even sources in the back of the book. How did this effect the story for you?
7. Have you ever found out something about where you lived that was surprising to you?
8. What did you think when the systemic issues in Rilla’s community were mentioned: drugs, abuse, un-finished education? Did they have a place in the story?
9. Talk about Reed and Rilla’s relationship. Do you think it’s better that they broke up? Could they have worked things out?
10. If you could ask the author anything, what would it be?