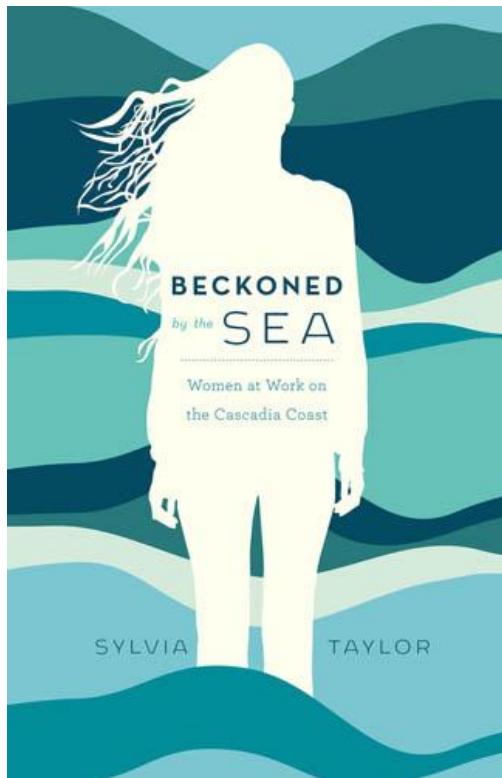


It seems quite fitting that we have a trio of recommendations for non-fiction books by female authors as we wrap up October, which is Women's History Month, and enter "Non-Fiction November". In no means exhaustive or comprehensive, these three recommendations certainly depict a range of women filled with determination, love, passion, and also faced with challenges, and weakness.

Heidi Greco recommends *Beckoned by the Sea: Women at Work on the Cascadia Coast* by **Sylvia Taylor**



Sylvia Taylor's first book, *The Fisher Queen*, tracked her adventures as a deckhand on a fishing boat that plied the waters of the BC coast. This time, rather than chasing hauls of fish, she's a fisher of stories.

Beckoned by the Sea (Heritage House, 2017) gathers conversations Taylor recorded with 24 women whose lives are linked to the coastal waters of the Cascadia region. She's sorted them into six categories – Harvesters, Travellers, Creators, History Keepers, Teachers, and Protectors – and after introducing each participant, Taylor allows them free rein in telling their stories. All of these women have answered a particular calling from the sea, and each has played out her response to that call in her own way, in roles from tugboat captain to First Nations paddle tour guide, from kelp harvester to professional mermaid.

Intriguing characters, one and all, this is a book you can dip into – as if it's its own ocean of conversations – and, just as if you were dipping into the sea, you're bound to come up with something new and surprising every time.

Heidi Greco writes in many genres—from essays and fiction to interviews and reviews. Her most recent book is from Caitlin Press, *Flightpaths: The Lost Journals of Amelia Earhart*.