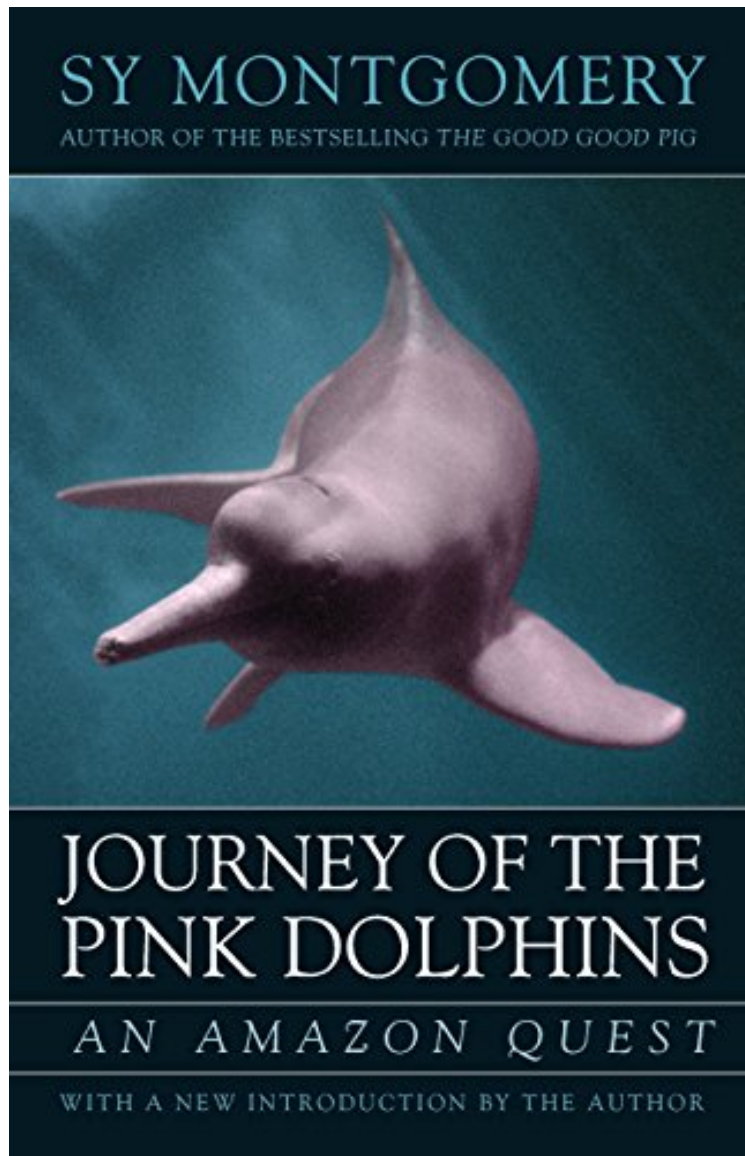


(Free) Journey of the Pink Dolphins: An Amazon Quest

## Journey of the Pink Dolphins: An Amazon Quest

*Sy Montgomery*

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**Sy Montgomery : Journey of the Pink Dolphins: An Amazon Quest** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Journey of the Pink Dolphins: An Amazon Quest:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Pink Dolphins By Kate M. I have read many, many books in my lifetime, but Sy Montgomery's Journey of the Pink Dolphins has taken my breath away. What a lovely tale, and how much the reader wants to send messages to Sy at the end of the book! This book is about the challenges life sends us, and what we can only reply to, more belief in what Montgomery has written, and a deep sympathy to the dolphins she

embraced during her quest. A reader comes away with the sensation that dolphins are everywhere, we must have only used our eyes and live in the moment to understand her dolphins. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I thought that this was a supremely superb book regarding ...By Teresa Young I thought that this was a supremely superb book regarding a magnificently spiritual creature that is elusive and undergoing a profound tragedy of population decline. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic author and topic. By C.F.G. Beautiful writing. Courageous writer and researcher. All her books are inspiring, moving, and honest. Sy Montgomery has a true heart and an amazing intellect.

By the acclaimed author of *The Soul of an Octopus* and the bestselling memoir *The Good Good Pig*, When Sy Montgomery ventured into the Amazon to unlock the mysteries of the little-known pink dolphins, she found ancient whales that plied the Amazon River at dawn and dusk, swam through treetops in flooded forests, and performed underwater ballets with their flexible bodies. But she soon found out that to know the botos, as the dolphins are locally called, you must also know the people who live among them. And so in *Journey of the Pink Dolphins*, Montgomery part naturalist, part poet, part Indiana Jones winds her way through watery tributaries and riverside villages, searching for botos and hearing the tales of locals who believe these ethereal dolphins are shape-shifters—creatures that emerge from the water as splendidly dressed men or women only to enchant their human onlookers, capture their souls, and then carry them away to the Encante, an underwater world. Montgomery takes readers on four separate journeys, exploring the river-dwelling dolphins' natural history, chronicling their conservation pressures, unraveling their prehistoric roots, and visiting with shamans who delve into the Encante.

.com Pink dolphins--and yes, in the River the flamingo-colored mammals do exist--are believed by Brazilians and Peruvians to take human form, impregnate women, lure lovers to an underwater paradise, and in various ways drive those who encounter them mad. They seem to have worked their magic on science writer Sy Montgomery, who journeys through rain forests and sunken cities in a mad-dash pursuit of the enigmatic creatures. Despite encounters with piranha-filled waters, toxic ants, and large rats--not to mention boat failures, foreign language problems, and alternate blasts of sun and rain--the persistent Montgomery pushes happily on, offering a lyrical account as intoxicating as the subject itself. She eventually makes contact, swimming with them, even holding one in her arms, but that may be the least relevant aspect of the entire book. Montgomery turns nature into a bewildering drug, opening doors into cultural and biological worlds invisible to most, but which teem with as much unseen life as a drop of river water held under a microscope. --Melissa Rossi From Publishers Weekly In a deeply felt, magical voyage to the tropics, Boston Globe nature columnist Montgomery (*Spell of the Tiger*) pursues the pink dolphin, a rare freshwater species, in the Brazilian and Peruvian . This elusive creature, with bulbous gray forehead, tiny eyes, chameleonlike color changes and pink back or fins, has inspired much local lore. Brazilian natives believe "boto" is a shape-shifter that makes love to humans, embodies spirits and carries people to the Encante, an enchanted underwater city. Combining a journalist's cool objectivity with a dolphin lover's almost mystical ecological consciousness, Montgomery luxuriates in the myths and legends as she swims with pink dolphins or tracks down radio-tagged boto in twisty, dangerous waterways, but she also ably reports the scientific facts. Boto mothers and offspring maintain a close bond, and though hard to spot in the wild, pink dolphins can be boldly playful and interactive with people. The , notes Montgomery, is polluted with cans, bottles, plastic bags and toxic wastes, yet the region is still an incredible incubator of biodiversity, and she describes her encounters with a veritable Noah's ark of exotic animals. She also mingles with field biologists, expatriates, conservationists, community leaders and a shaman (with whom she ceremonially imbibes ayahuasca, a hallucinogenic potion). Montgomery writes passionately about the destruction of rain forests, the ongoing extinction of Brazil's tribes and her visit to Mamirauá—Brazil's largest conservation experiment—where local residents act as guardians over a vast realm of manatees, dolphins, fish, turtles and timber. Her rhapsodic book winsomely blends travel, reportage, adventure and natural history. Illus. not seen by PW. (Mar.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Local folklore says that pink dolphins can entrance you and take you, never to return, to live with them in Encante, the enchanted city beneath the river. This book will claim you as well. Nature writer Montgomery's (*Spell of the Tiger*) tales of her trips to the to follow these elusive and little-studied animals are heady stuff. She visits researchers, scientists, village folk, and shamans, and although her efforts don't add much to the scientific knowledge, her vivid descriptions of the rainforest (you will be scratching your bug bites, feeling the sweltering heat, and wanting to swim with the dolphins) and conservation attempts in reserves such as Pacaya-Samiria make this a recommended choice for all natural history collections. -Nancy J. Moeckel, Miami Univ. Libs., Oxford, OH Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.