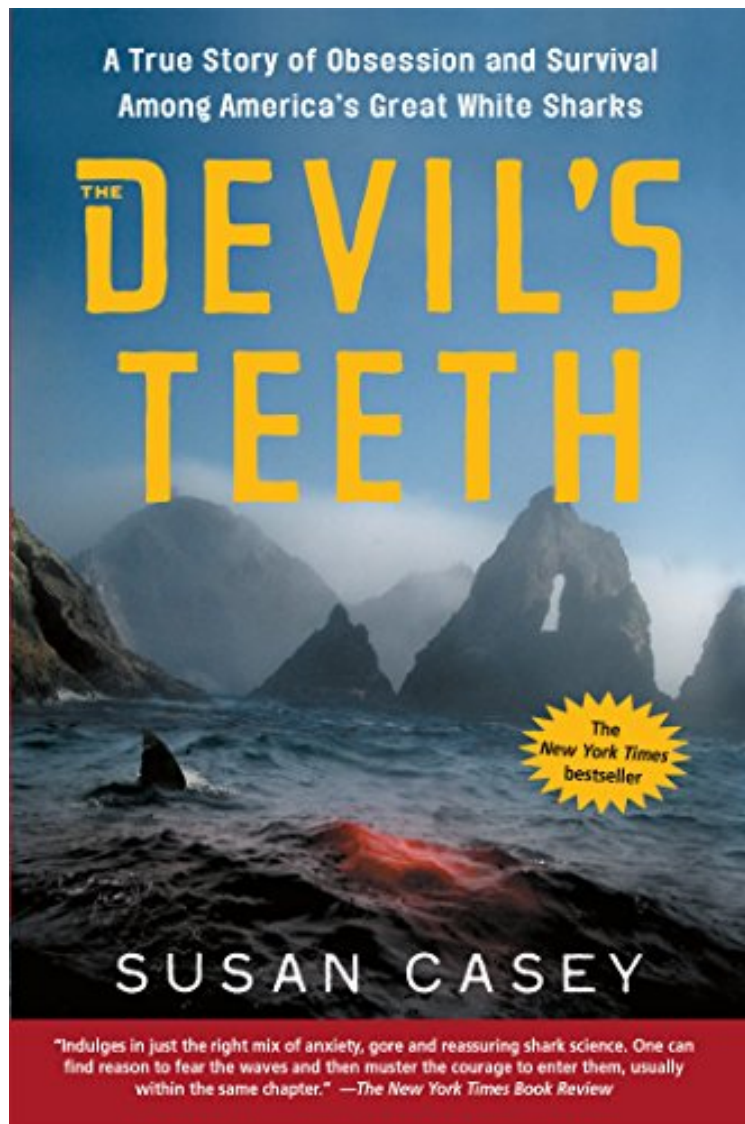


[Mobile book] The Devil's Teeth: A True Story of Obsession and Survival Among America's Great White Sharks

# The Devil's Teeth: A True Story of Obsession and Survival Among America's Great White Sharks

Susan Casey

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#90323 in Books Holt Paperbacks 2006-05-30 2006-05-30 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.23 x 21.08 x 5.471, .68 #File Name: 0805080112320 pages Great product! | File size: 44.Mb

**Susan Casey : The Devil's Teeth: A True Story of Obsession and Survival Among America's Great White Sharks** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Devil's Teeth: A True Story of Obsession and Survival Among America's Great White Sharks:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. i wish i'd had the idea ;)By jeffrey w burdickfor me this story

became yet another instance where monied interests sought to exploit a phenomenal natural harmony. felt quite tragic actually, yet i'm satisfied to have been brought a bit closer to the realities of the white sharks. i think the regulatory forces are quite justified in holding a high bar above the heads of anyone on the island, i just wish they would extend their jurisdiction to the waters around the islands as well. it's farcical that a dedicated scientist would be denied access to the islands when boatloads of gawkers are allowed to putter about desensitizing the sharks to their ways. the whole worth of the farrollones is that the human element is very close to non-existent. essentially, the book is about the loss of the perfect observation scenario for developing a deeper understanding of the sharks, thereby increasing the potential for protecting them from our fears, which really are ridiculous, these sharks aren't interested in hunting human flesh, every attack is a case of confused identity, and anyone who surfs, dives, etc. in the red triangle has it coming, and probably is aware of this fact. and i'm pretty sure there was another layer of relating not revealed in the book that influenced the cataclysmic mistake.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Riveting...I loved it!By Kristine McCaffreyThe Farallon Islandsa rocky and barren chain of jutting, granite peakssit just 27 miles from the San Francisco coastline. A handful of biologists reside in this remote outpost to study the bird, pinniped, and shark populations. Every fall, great white sharks arrive to feed on the local seal population and Ms. Casey delves into the research undertaken in the surrounding waters. Its a story of grit and terror, and a testament to how little we know about these fascinating and monstrous creatures. Casey also recounts the history of the islandat one point, the eggs sold in the Bay area markets were collected from the massive seabird population, nearly depleting their numbers. The main attraction, of course, is the sharks, with personalities as varied as the people who investigate them. By the end of the book, despite a lingering fear of the giant fish, I couldnt help but gain a healthy respect for the apex predators of the ocean. This is a riveting and enlightening read.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. InterestingBy Barbara270The book was filled with info on the islands and how they were the mega center for great white sharks. Learning of all the research that was being done there by various scientists was also worthwhile I did feel that the story line did begin to drag at about the 70% point. From then on out I was searching for the end.

A journalist's obsession brings her to a remote island off the California coast, home to the world's most mysterious and fearsome predators--and the strange band of surfer-scientists who follow themSusan Casey was in her living room when she first saw the great white sharks of the Farallon Islands, their dark fins swirling around a small motorboat in a documentary. These sharks were the alphas among alphas, some longer than twenty feet, and there were too many to count; even more incredible, this congregation was taking place just twenty-seven miles off the coast of San Francisco.In a matter of months, Casey was being hoisted out of the early-winter swells on a crane, up a cliff face to the barren surface of Southeast Farallon Island--dubbed by sailors in the 1850s the "devil's teeth." There she joined Scot Anderson and Peter Pyle, the two biologists who bunk down during shark season each fall in the island's one habitable building, a haunted, 135-year-old house spackled with lichen and gull guano. Two days later, she got her first glimpse of the famous, terrifying jaws up close and she was instantly hooked; her fascination soon yielded to obsession--and an invitation to return for a full season. But as Casey readied herself for the eight-week stint, she had no way of preparing for what she would find among the dangerous, forgotten islands that have banished every campaign for civilization in the past two hundred years. The Devil's Teeth is a vivid dispatch from an otherworldly outpost, a story of crossing the boundary between society and an untamed place where humans are neither wanted nor needed.

.com In a post-Jaws/Discovery Channel world, unearthing fresh data on great white sharks is a feat. So credit Susan Casey not just with finding and spotlighting two biologists who have done truly pioneering field research on the beasts but also with following them and their subjects into the heart of one of the most unnatural habitats on Earth: the Farallon Islands. Though just 30 miles due west of San Francisco, the Farallones--nicknamed the Devil's Teeth for their ragged appearance and raging inhospitality--are utterly alien, which may explain why each autumn, packs of great whites return to gorge on the seals and sea lions that gather there before returning to the Pacific and beyond. That Casey, via her biologist buddies Peter Pyle and Scot Anderson, can even report that sharks apparently follow migratory feeding patterns is a revelation. Throughout The Devil's Teeth, Casey makes clear that year upon year of observing the sharks have given Pyle and Anderson (and by extension, us) insights into shark behavior that are entirely new and too numerous to list. The otherworldly Farallon Islands, meanwhile, also dominate Casey's engaging tale as she charts their transformation from ultradangerous source of wild eggs in the 19th century to ultradangerous real-life shark lab and bird sanctuary today. Despite the plethora of factoids on offer, Casey's style is consistently digestible and very amusing. She also has a knack for putting things into perspective. Take this characteristic passage: The Farallon great whites are largely unharassed. They might cross paths with the occasional boatload of day-trippers from San Francisco, but they're subjected to none of the behavior-altering coercion that nature's top predators regularly endure so that people can sit in the Winnebago... and get a look at them. This is important because despite their visibility at the Farallones, and despite the impressive truth that sharks are so old they predate trees, great whites have remained among the most mysterious of creatures." By book's end, it's hard to know what's more captivating: The biologists' groundbreaking data, Casey's primer on the evolution of the Farallones, the islands' symbiotic relationships with the

sharks, the gulls and sea lions they attract, or the outpost's resident ghosts. Frankly, it's a nice problem to have. --Kim Hughes

**Getting to Know the Great White** It was a BBC documentary on great white sharks visiting California's Farallon Islands that turned Susan Casey from an editor of adventure and outdoors stories in such magazines as *Outside* to a journalist obsessed with an outdoors adventure of her own. In her .com interview, Casey recalls the fascinations and the follies of her time with the sharks in the Farallones and discusses everything from the ethics of adventure journalism to the stunning silence and size of nature's perfect predators. And in her answers to the Significant Seven (the seven questions we like to ask every author), she reveals her admiration for both Joseph Mitchell and Johnny Knoxville (once you've read her book, both choices seem appropriate). The outer edge of the fearsome Maintop Bay, a spooky, boat-eating stretch of water that makes everyone uneasy. Not surprisingly, the sharks seem to love it. (Susan Casey) An 18-foot shark investigates a 6-foot surfboard. (Peter Pyle) A shark attack at the Farallones is not usually a subtle event. (Peter Pyle) Scot Anderson (in orange) observes a feeding. Also in the boat are director Paul Atkins and cinematographer Peter Scoones of the BBC film crew that visited the Farallones in 1993 to film *The Great White Shark*. (Peter Pyle) The Farallones researchers see some action from a shark named Bluntnose. (Peter Pyle) An unquiet cove: Just Imagine (Casey's temporary home) at its moorage in Fisherman's Bay, 150 yards west of Tower Point and 200 yards east of Sugarloaf. (Susan Casey) From Publishers Weekly

From its startling opening description of scientists racing to the bloody scene where a shark has decapitated a seal, this memoircircumnatural and cultural history of the Farallon Islands"the spookiest, wildest place on Earth"plunges readers into the thrills of shark watching. Casey, a sportswriter with recurring dreams about deep-sea creatures, "became haunted" by the 211-acre archipelago 27 miles west of San Francisco when she saw a BBC documentary about Peter Pyle and Scot Anderson, biologists who study the great white sharks there. The islands are the only place on Earth where scientists can study the animals in their natural habitat. These evolutionary ancients (sharks lived 200 million years before dinosaurs) can be as large as Mack trucks, eat suits of armor, are both fierce and friendly, and, according to Casey, are an addictive fascination for those lucky enough to encounter them. Casey's three-week solo stay on a yacht anchored in shark waters is itself an adventure, with the author evacuating just hours before the yacht disappeared in a storm. Her suspenseful narrative perfectly matches the drama and mystery of these islands, their resident sharks and the scientists who love them. Photos. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist

Each September a group of great white sharks gathers off Farallon Islands--a 211-acre, 10-island archipelago in the Pacific Ocean, 27 miles off San Francisco--and remains there for about three months. For 15 years, biologists Scot Anderson and Peter Pyle have studied them and concluded that the same sharks return to the same location each year. These islands--protected as a national wildlife refuge--are the only place where it's possible to study their behavior naturally in the wild. Anderson and Pyle can recognize each shark and have named them; there's Betty and Mama, Spotty and T-Nose, among others. Casey, a development editor at Time Inc., joined the biologists for eight weeks to gather material for the book, which has 16 pages of color photographs. The result is a detailed and absorbing account of these awesome creatures. George Cohen

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