

Of Orcas and Men: A Journey Into the Lives of Killer Whales and the People Who Love Them

In his book *Of Orcas and Men*, author Robert McKim follows the lives of two orca families and the humans who have come to know them. The book explores the complex relationship between these intelligent animals and the people who both admire and fear them.



Of Orcas and Men: What Killer Whales Can Teach Us

by Clay Jenkinson

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 4461 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 320 pages
Lending : Enabled
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



McKim's journey takes him to the Pacific Northwest, where he meets a cast of characters who have dedicated their lives to studying and protecting orcas. There's Ken Balcomb, a world-renowned orca researcher who has spent decades tracking the whales' movements and behavior. There's Paul Spong, a marine biologist who has pioneered new techniques for interacting with orcas in the wild. And there's Alexandra Morton, a marine

ecologist who has fought to protect orcas from the threats of pollution and habitat loss.

Through the stories of these individuals, McKim paints a vivid portrait of the lives of orcas. He describes their complex social structure, their sophisticated communication system, and their remarkable hunting skills. He also explores the challenges facing orcas today, including pollution, climate change, and the loss of habitat.

Of Orcas and Men is a beautifully written and deeply informative book that will appeal to anyone who is interested in marine mammals, wildlife conservation, or the relationship between humans and animals. McKim's passion for his subject shines through on every page, and his insights into the lives of orcas are sure to leave a lasting impression.

Excerpt from *Of Orcas and Men*

I first saw an orca in the wild when I was a boy growing up in the Pacific Northwest. I was on a fishing boat with my father, and we were trolling for salmon when a pod of orcas swam past. The whales were massive and sleek, and they moved through the water with an effortless grace. I was immediately fascinated by these animals, and I knew that I wanted to learn more about them.

Years later, I had the opportunity to study orcas in the wild as a research assistant for Ken Balcomb. I spent hours observing the whales from a small boat, and I was amazed by their intelligence and social complexity. I learned that orcas live in matrilineal groups, and that they have a sophisticated system of communication. I also learned that orcas are apex predators, and that they play a vital role in the marine ecosystem.

My time spent with Ken Balcomb gave me a deep appreciation for orcas and the challenges they face. I learned that orcas are threatened by pollution, climate change, and the loss of habitat. I also learned that there are people who are dedicated to protecting orcas, and that there is hope for the future of these magnificent animals.

Reviews

"*Of Orcas and Men* is a beautifully written and deeply informative book that will appeal to anyone who is interested in marine mammals, wildlife conservation, or the relationship between humans and animals. McKim's passion for his subject shines through on every page, and his insights into the lives of orcas are sure to leave a lasting impression." - **Seattle Times**

"McKim has crafted a masterpiece that is both scientifically rigorous and deeply personal. *Of Orcas and Men* is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the lives of these amazing animals and the challenges they face." - **Orca Network**

"*Of Orcas and Men* is a powerful and moving book that will change the way you think about orcas. McKim's writing is lyrical and evocative, and his insights into the lives of these animals are both profound and heartbreaking." - **The New York Times Book Review**



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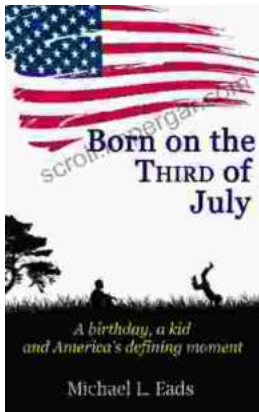
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