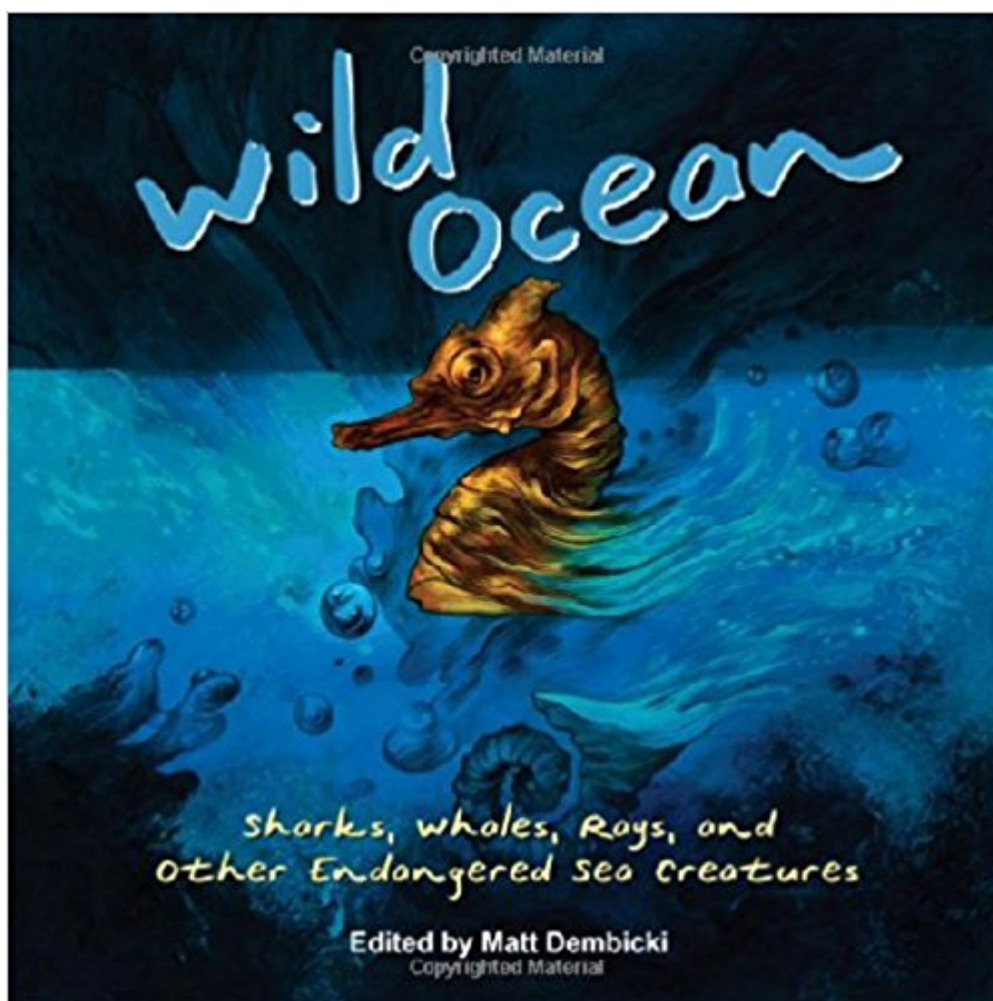


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Wild Ocean: Sharks, Whales, Rays, And Other Endangered Sea Creatures



Synopsis

The world's oceans represent the last wild frontier on Earth. In this graphic novel collection, Matt Dembicki, editor and artist of the award-winning *Trickster*, pulls together stories of twelve iconic endangered sea animals. Produced in cooperation with the non-profit PangeaSeed, these compelling scientific vignettes also educate and foster a passion to conserve the oceans' resources.

Book Information

Series: Wild Ocean

Paperback: 156 pages

Publisher: Fulcrum Publishing (May 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1938486382

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Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,813,769 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in [Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Science & Technology > Zoology](#) #117 in [Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Science & Technology > Ecology](#) #506 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Endangered Species](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Nominated for a Harvey Award for Best Anthology *Wild Ocean* is a work of fiction about a non-fictional topic, which makes it an ideal way to introduce readers to a subject without throwing reams of data at them. It takes an entertaining approach to the subject matter and encourages further study. You can't beat a non-fiction book that pulls off that particular feat. [#151; Mike Hall, The Comics Book Librarian Blog](#) This anthology offers a quick overview of twelve different oceanic species, each with a different scope of interactions with humans and within the ocean itself. Plots range from serious [#151; capturing illegal fishermen who are doing it to survive \[#151; to lighthearted \\[#151; a kid playing with a blue whale toy while his dad goes to a conference. Overall, the stories end happily, but the long-term prognosis for our oceans is grim, and that isn't\\]\\(#\\)\]\(#\)](#)

left out. Given that the point is to raise awareness, there's no reason why it should be.

• Write Lies BlogGr 7 Up• A dozen veteran and first-time comic-book writers and graphic novelists appear in this collaboration. Separate chapters introduce readers to wonders of the ocean under threat from overfishing, global warming, and other man-made dangers. From seahorses made into keychains to monk seals losing their birthing and pup-rearing grounds, kids encounter beautiful creatures that need humans to undo the damage they have caused to the environment. Each story opens with a textual explanation of the section's topic. The graphic styles vary widely, with some, like the story of the manatee, looking like traditional Sunday comics, while others, like the description of the coral reefs of the Maldives, appearing much more realistic. Some of the entries include allusions to ocean-focused mythology, while others are practically wordless and let the illustrated panels speak for themselves. Back matter includes not always age-appropriate further reading, but also very informative websites for in-depth research. Passionate students would enjoy this colorful, informative look into different aspects of sea life, and teachers could use the book to introduce marine biology or ecology units, making this a wise purchase for middle school libraries and beyond.

• School Library Journal Nominated as a Best Young Adult Graphic Novel by the Cybils Awards (Children's and Young Adult Bloggers Literary Awards) One of Publisher's Weekly's "14 Best Environmental Comics."• The goal is to show the value of comics in the education process. It doesn't matter what tool you use to help students learn; podcasts, iPad, textbooks, comics, etc.; the point is to find what helps students make a connection with content.

• Michael Cavanaugh, The Washington Post

Matt Dembicki previously edited and contributed to the Eisner-nominated and Aesop Prize-winning *Trickster: Native American Tales: A Graphic Collection*. He also served at the helm of *District Comics: An Unconventional History of Washington, D.C.*, an Harvey Award-nominated anthology that was named as one of the best books of 2012 by the Washington Post.

When I saw Matt Dembicki had a new anthology out I just had to read it. "Trickster" is one of the best graphic anthologies out there! Then seeing this was about a topic that I absolutely love, marine animals, I was in. This is not another "Trickster". It's not as large and it's an educational/non-fiction book opposed to folklore so it's not really fair to compare them and I'll stop with that. "Wild Ocean" is a collection of shorts by different graphic writers and artists each featuring an endangered sea creature or environment (coral reef). Some are presented as fictional stories from the animals point

of view, some as folklore, others simply as straightforward factual non-fiction. The different artists bring a varied style so each short is unique in written and artistic style. Yet the colours maintain a marine theme focusing on greens, blues and turquoise. Personally I would have preferred a more fictional collection of stories but I enjoyed these collected here and learned some interesting information. What I especially liked from this type of book is that "Wild Ocean" does not play to any current political trends. Climate change is hardly mentioned in the front matter and not in the stories at all. Incontrovertible facts are purely used as reasons for endangerment such as over-fishing, pollution, habitat destruction, non-Western medicines among others. A very pretty presentation for those interested in the topic. Would make for good use in the classroom.

Thoroughly enjoyed this beautifully illustrated book and its overall inspiring message. What a great way to get a younger audience involved and educated regarding environmental issues affecting the oceans via art and storytelling. Purchased the book for my 10 year old niece and she consumed the twelve short stories within an afternoon and proceeded to ask many questions and offer solutions as to how she can help save our seas while involving her classmates and family. Would highly recommend Wild Ocean to anyone who cares about the current state of our blue planet. - And a portion of the proceeds go to support the non-profit organization, PangeaSeed.

Wild, indeed! I just love it when learning is FUN. The stories of these endangered animals are expertly told and illustrated. For those who still want more, there are references for further reading material. I have a classroom full of children that will be in line to read this book, and I expect they will go home and beg their parents to buy them a copy.

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