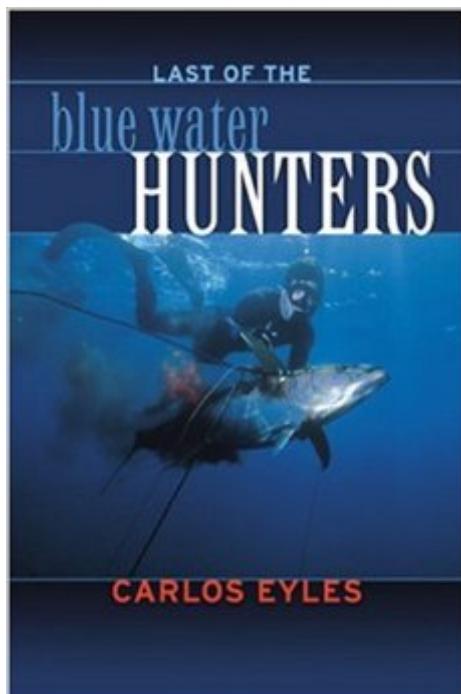


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Last Of The Blue Water Hunters, Revised



Synopsis

An extraordinary account of the author's apprenticeship with free-diving pioneers who stalk powerful game fish.

Book Information

Paperback: 216 pages

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Customer Reviews

In a lifetime of reading I can honestly say that only three books have had a profound impact on the way I look at the world. They are 'The True Believer' by Eric Hoffer, '1984' by George Orwell, and 'The Last Of The Blue Water Hunters' by Carlos Eyles. My view of the natural world and man's place in it has been enriched by Mr Eyles' work. Though this may sound like hyperbole, it is not. While I could not say that he is a great writer in the sense of a Joe Conrad or Charles Dickens, he is a more than competent journalist who is able to tell the stories of the early days of spearfishing in an engaging and informative way. The strength of this book lies not in its style, but in its content. On one level, it is a series of entertaining fishing stories. On another level, it is a view of nature through the eyes of a hunter. Don't be put off by this. The very word 'hunter' has acquired a negative connotation over the past half century and I must confess that in some sense I too had begun to internalize this bias. Mr. Eyles is not an apologist for what some may view as a bloodsport, he is a writer and naturalist who communicates the beauty of the natural world and preindustrial man's place in it. I keep a copy of this book on my nightstand and read from it at least three times a month. I can open it up to any page and escape the worries of the day. It is especially nice to read when work keeps me from the ocean for long weeks at a time. I would (and have) recommend this book to everyone, diver and non-diver alike. No one has been disappointed.

Anyone who has been in tempo with the ocean can appreciate this book. Its a relatively short read and I was disappointed when it ended. I was enjoying the underwater adventures every night before I went to sleep. Beyond the adventure this book has a deep and profound message that most people who aren't already aware should definitely learn about.

This is a book based on the personal feelings behind Carlos Eyles and his adventures of breath hold underwater spearfishing. I was not into spearfishing when I read this book, but it inspired me to take up this sport, taking me into his world as only Carlos can describe. This is not a "how to" book, but it teaches the reader how to be proficient in the water as a breath hold diver. This book truly expresses the true essence of being in the magical aquatic world. This book is masterfully written and it was a real joy to read.

More awesomeness than I can take in a day. Another great story from Carlos. Sure wish I was into the spearo culture back then in his day s down Baja. My gosh I'm old enough that I could have been. Silly me chasin the wrong tails!

I read a quote once that said "When you sell a man a book, you don't sell him 12 ounces of paper, ink and glue - you sell him a whole new life." I should stop typing right now, and just say 'buy this book and prove that quote true.' I keep coming back to this book, mesmerized by the images it conjures up in my mind, and finding in it the unspoken reasons for my rediscovered love of the ocean. For those who love the sublime reality of the life and death world under the waves, who long to find their place as hunter and adventurer in the deep blue, this book will profoundly move you and leave you with the taste of a whole new life. Read it, and see what I mean.

I thoroughly enjoyed the book. As a free diver and a dive master I appreciated what it must have been like to dive the ocean when there was so much more life in it. This is a book that must adorn your diving library. Just fabulous - I could not put it down.

Carlos Eyles' book is a great narrative on how he was able to live the life of an adventurer, foraging off of the sea while maintaining respect for its inhabitants. It is amazing to realize that his stories are true, and that there was once a day when lobsters were everywhere, abalone were crammed into every available crevice, and white sea bass were available 100 yards offshore. It is sad when one

realizes what humanity has done to our pristine ocean that God has given us. These stories are a must for everyone to remember how things once were, and so that we don't repeat the mistake of over-gathering. It is great to read about the days when lobsters could be gathered by the barrel-ful, but it is also precisely the reason that they are no longer in abundance.

I'm an avid free diver and spear fisherman. Read this book. For me it gives incredible stories, perspective on the state of the ocean, insightful history of scuba/free diving/spearfishing and a proper mind-set for any ocean explorer. This book connected with me in a profound way. It's a smooth read, like Carlos is talking to you personally - imparting hard-won ocean-life advice through great personal stories and first-hand experience. He knows what he's talking about and I'm grateful he shared his stories and adventures.

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