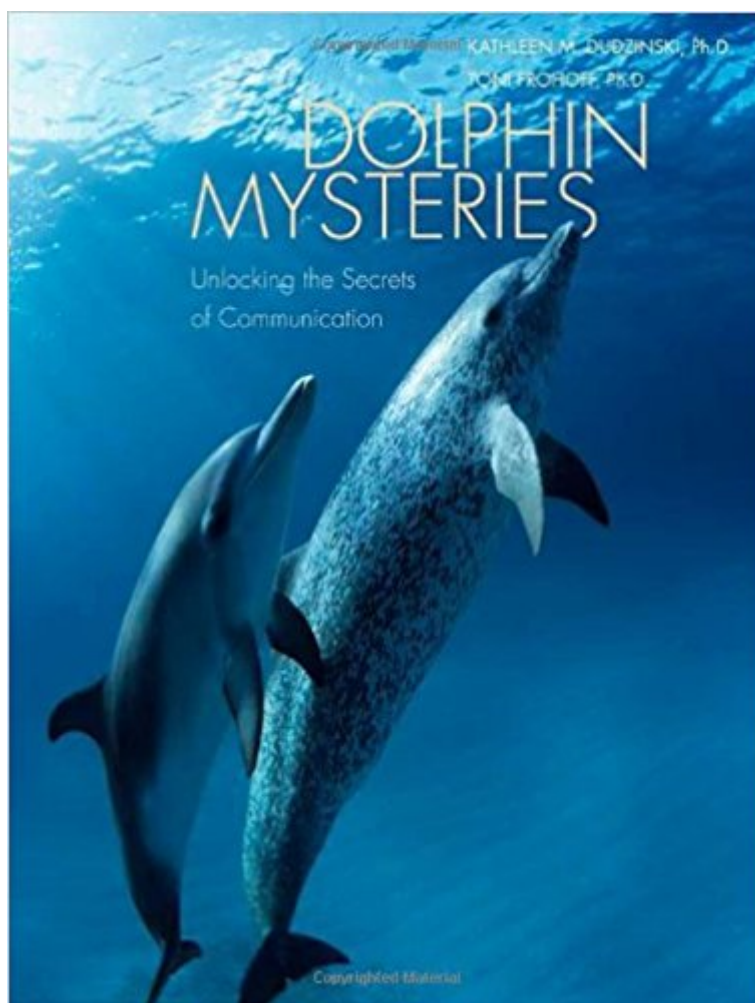


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Dolphin Mysteries: Unlocking The Secrets Of Communication



Synopsis

Dolphins have fascinated humans for millennia, giving rise to an abundance of stories and myths about them, yet the actual details of their lives in the sea have remained elusive. In this enthralling book, Kathleen M. Dudzinski and Toni Frohoff take us into the dolphins' aquatic world to witness firsthand how they live their lives, communicate, and interact with one another and with other species, including people. Kathleen M. Dudzinski and Toni Frohoff are scientists who have collectively dedicated more than 40 years to studying dolphins beneath the ocean's surface, frequently through a close-up underwater lens. Drawing on their own experiences and on up-to-the-minute research, the authors show that dolphins are decidedly not just members of a group but distinct individuals, able to communicate with one another and with humans. Dudzinski and Frohoff introduce a new way of looking at, and listening to, the vocabulary of dolphins in the sea, and they even provide an introductory dolphin dictionary, listing complex social signals that dolphins use to share information among themselves and with people. Unveiling an intimate and scientifically accurate portrait of dolphins, this book will appeal to everyone who has wanted a closer glimpse into the hearts and minds of these amazing creatures.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is an informative and engaging book for those who are interested in learning more about the history of the study of dolphin behavior, as narrated by two life-long and well-recognized researchers. It discusses the experiences of both researchers, their insights and encounters with

both their scientific findings after studying dolphins. The book also offers a rare insight into what they have learned from interactions with different cultures and uncovering histories in those areas as related to dolphins. This book further gives an accurate and interesting synopsis of where research of dolphins lies in the history of interaction between humans and dolphins--which I found fascinating. This is definitely recommended.

I was really looking forward to this book, but after reading it, I feel I really haven't learned much about dolphin cognition and communication. First, the book is extremely repetitive. For example, in the first two chapters, the authors says that dolphins are "egregious" animals, again and again and again. And then in the middle of the book they say how they touch with pectoral fins and how this can mean different things in different contexts, again and again and again. And in the last chapter they say how loud noises can adversely affect dolphins, again and again and again. The book could have been shortened by a factor of a few without any loss of information. Second, the style is really annoying: the book was obviously written by two people as it is a bit incoherent at times and they often say things like "I (Toni) observed this and that" and then Kathleen thinks this and that and then we are served a thick dose of emotional stuff about how they love dolphins and oceans. I bought this book to learn about dolphins and not about Toni and Kathleen, so passive voice with some information might be more helpful. Finally, when they come to the really interesting stuff, they don't go into any detail. For example, they explain the false belief task challenge and then they say that there is some reason to believe that dolphins have passed this task, without any elaboration whatsoever. Sure, I could go and find the source paper, but I bought the book precisely because I don't have time to do things like that...

I couldn't even finish this book. As others have said, it is poorly written, boring, and repetitive. The whole "I (Kathleen)" and "I (Tony)" nonsense got old fast. Although somewhat interesting at times, I can't say it really provided anything new. There are plenty of other interesting books on dolphins out there ("Dolphins Diaries" and "Dolphin in the Mirror" being two notable ones I read recently and thoroughly enjoyed), so don't bother with this one. I read *Had Dolphins* by Tim Cahill - which had featured Kathleen - back in high school, so I was interested to see what she had learned all those years studying dolphins. I'm not sure I really care now.

Absorbing everything informative about cetaceans may have hindered my enjoyment of this book. I didn't find any mysteries revealed. There was no mention of the dolphins ability to stun prey with their

sonar, nor any information disproving it. The style of interweaving comments was more distracting and not helpful, since even the photograph had no means of distinguishing them as individuals. Overall this book was a disappointment. No mystery--except--, perhaps some of the more bizarre doings of Lilly and why was it published with that title?

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