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Matt Rigney

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#2724999 in Books 2017-04-04Original language:English 9.00 x .90 x 6.10l, .0 #File Name: 1512600679336 pages | File size: 27.Mb

Matt Rigney : In Pursuit of Giants: One Man's Global Search for the Last of the Great Fish (Seafaring America) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Pursuit of Giants: One Man's Global Search for the Last of the Great Fish (Seafaring America):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. In Pursuit of Giants - A Quest that DeliversBy P. D. UptonTimely, impressive in scope, and relevant in its crucial messages regarding man's unconscious ravaging of the sea's vital fish resources and destruction of the natural balance of the ocean's ecosystems, In Pursuit of Giants is more than expose; it is a moral imperative for humans to wake up and take action before it is much too late. Rather than a dry lecture in this regard, Rigney illustrates his points by taking you with him on a ride around the world, out on the open sea, giving you an adventure of a lifetime. But the book is so much more than an environmental statement or riveting stories about guys fighting with, losing, or catching big game fish.Rigney has the makings of one of the great story tellers, and he brings to life each person he meets, capturing their complexity, humor, and intensity, their own stories and dead-on insights - whether about life and humanity, the fish, or the industry in which they work. All the while, Rigney breathes fire into his every image of nature, described in dazzling, stunning flashes of language that never gets old. In one moment, you are with him on the boat, wide eyed and astounded by the Swordfish's power, its deadly sword, its guile to outwit any hunter and its courage to fight to the death. In another moment, which I won't spoil, Death literally has Rigney - momentarily - in the palm of Its hand. There are risks to this kind of quest - one which speaks about the author's guts to finish this five-year endeavor and then make it visceral.This book is at its heart the story of man who is seeking to confront and reveal his own essential nature, mirrored in the qualities of the wild, unpredictable ocean and its intriguing, mysterious, beautiful inhabitants. The deeper he seeks, the more is unveiled...man's predilection for darkness, ignorance and greed - counterbalanced by Rigney's own glimpses of Soul that are found, eye to eye and will to will with unspoiled, untamed beings. Rigney's reverence for Nature, his willingness to keenly observe what is hidden, his determination to dive below the surface of things, along with his down to earth, salty wit comes through clear as certain waters that mesmerize him. The book delivers, so alternately expect to be sitting on the edge of your seat, to laugh out loud, to experience the colorful world of the sea alight in a literary eloquence that sits on the pristine edge of poetry, all surrounding a real and direct wake up call.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. In Pursuit of Giants - a Gem of the OceanBy BEMI'm not a fisherman - nor a fisherwoman - but "In Pursuit of Giants" is a book for anyone looking for a quick-moving, exciting read full of riveting personal stories and passionate

commitment to influence the survival of the giants of the sea. I had the privilege of reading part of the book previous to publication. Now I have in my hands the full copy and it is a gem! Matt's descriptions of the fishermen and places to which he traveled bring his story home to those of us sitting comfortably on our back porches. His ability to "paint the picture" with his writing, and his immense love of his "giants" add up to a glorious read. He asked the tough questions during his research and didn't flinch when approaching even the most disagreeable personalities along the way. In Matt's pursuit of excellence, he has shared with his fortunate readers his book, "In Pursuit of Giants." BEM, Vermont, USA 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Superb review By REELDOCA an avid sports fisherman, I found this book accurate and well written. Rigney has obviously done a tremendous amount of work and research on a subject he clearly loves. Although the interviews and references are great, his on-board descriptions give true color and action to an otherwise dull topic, except to fishing enthusiasts. My only complaint was his omission of two popular and threatened species, Gulf of Mexico Red and Gag Grouper and Chilean Sea Bass, (or more accurately Patagonian Toothfish). In particular, I would have liked to read more about the challenges, validity, and accuracy of stock assessments, particularly when it comes to Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico grouper and American red snapper, both of which seem arbitrary and too subjective to political pressures. The forgotten story of Goliath Grouper is fascinating as well. At times, Rigney waxes sentimental about fish feeling pain, (of which I take some issue); however, overall this is an excellent and thoroughly readable work which I could not put down.

For millennia the great fish—marlin, bluefin tuna, and swordfish—have reigned over the world's oceans and awed human beings. Naturalists, photographers, sport fishermen, and writers from Zane Grey to Ernest Hemingway have been inspired by their beauty, power, and sheer size. But like much other marine life today, these fish face perilous reductions in their populations due to destructive and illegal fishing, inept fisheries management practices, and dramatic changes in ocean ecology, including those wrought by climate change. In Pursuit of Giants is a moving elegy and a call to arms for the protection of these creatures, as well as a five-year, 75,000-mile global adventure story that takes author Matt Rigney on a quest to discover how once-thriving species are now threatened. Rigney's pilgrimage to encounter these giants takes him from the sportfishing mecca of Cabo San Lucas, to the Great Barrier Reef, from New Zealand to Nova Scotia, Japan and the Mediterranean, as he joins commercial and sport fishermen, marine biologists, fish-farming pioneers, and ocean activists to investigate the dangers these species face, and the various efforts being made—or not—to protect them.

Idquo;Muscular and lyrical by turns, Mr. Rigney's prose deftly captures the wildness of the sea—the deep gleam of a shoal turning suddenly in the sunlight, the birdlike head of a striped marlin, spawning tuna—blazing their milky contrails. Each section reads like a short story. Thumbnail character sketches abound, with the odd salty joke thrown in. rdquo;—Wall Street Journal

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