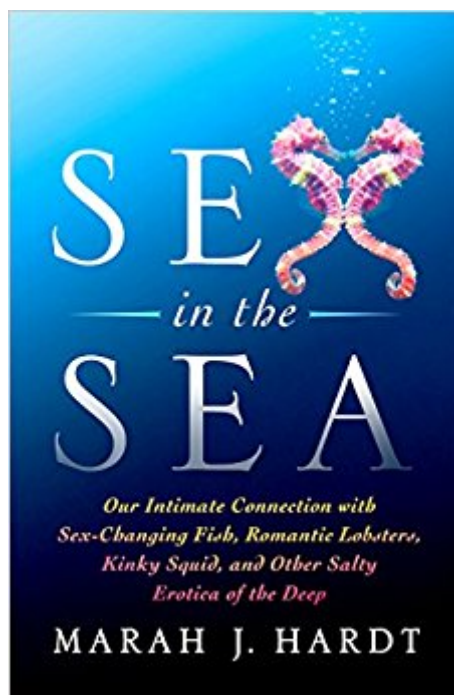




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# Sex In The Sea: Our Intimate Connection With Sex-Changing Fish, Romantic Lobsters, Kinky Squid, And Other Salty Erotica Of The Deep



## Synopsis

An Oprah.com "Best Book for National Reading Month" Forget the Kama Sutra. When it comes to inventive sex acts, just look to the sea. There we find the elaborate mating rituals of armored lobsters; giant right whales engaging in a lively threesome whilst holding their breath; full moon sex parties of groupers and daily mating blitzes by blueheaded wrasse. Deep-sea squid perform inverted 69s, while hermaphrodite sea slugs link up in giant sex loops. From doubly endowed sharks to the maze-like vaginas of some whales, *Sex in the Sea* is a journey unlike any other to explore the staggering ways life begets life beneath the waves. Beyond a deliciously voyeuristic excursion, *Sex in the Sea* uniquely connects the timeless topic of sex with the timely issue of sustainable oceans. Through overfishing, climate change, and ocean pollution we are disrupting the creative procreation that drives the wild abundance of life in the ocean. With wit and scientific rigor, Hardt introduces us to the researchers and innovators who study the wet and wild sex lives of ocean life and offer solutions that promote rather than prevent, successful sex in the sea. Part science, part erotica, *Sex in the Sea* discusses how we can shift from a prophylactic to a more propagative force for life in the ocean.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

• Whether readers are new to the marine sciences or possess prior knowledge, they will find much to learn in this well-written and delightful study. • Library Journal, starred review "Funny and entertaining...but it is also a warning. Misunderstanding the mating habits and needs of sea life

poses great risks to our own way of life." •The Miami Herald"An oceanographic Kinsey Report."

•O Magazine"In Sex in the Sea, Marah J. Hardt, research co-director of the nonprofit Future for Fish, gathers tales of marine love that are often as hilarious as they are disturbing."

•New York Post"[Hardt's] fascination with the sheer variety and kinkiness of sex in the ocean is unbounded."

•Sierra"Hardt's writing is often spectacular at describing the rituals and courtships of underwater reproduction...It's descriptions like theseâ •luxurious and strangeâ •that help drive Hardt's book."

•The New Republic"A voyeuristic romp."

•The Economist"Sea sex is way more fraught than your average tinder hookup, Dr. Marah Hardt suggests in her weird, excellent new book...With endless enthusiasm and innuendos, Hardt explores the â œsalty erotica of the deep,â • from barnacle boners to the mass simultaneous orgasms of coral (take notes, gentlemen)."

•GQ"Oh, the shenanigans that go on down below. From lobsters spraying urine on each other as part of their mating ritual to horseshoe crabs' orgies to the blue whale's 12-foot penis, Hardt covers the waterfront."

•The Chicago Tribune"A watery romp under the waves that will appeal to anyone wanting to broaden their knowledge of our watery planet."

•Kirkus Reviews"Hilarious...Hardt's science is up to date in a field where research can be difficult, and readers will feel confident that they can talk intelligently about fish gonads at their next sushi dinner."

•Publisher's Weeklyâ œI think it was W.C. Fields who famously said 'I don't drink water. Fish have sex in it.' As Marah J. Hardt tells it in this captivating, tell-all account, for quite a few sea creatures that's the whole point. Sex in the Sea is a highly entertaining, exhilarating book and a wonderfully fresh take on the amazing biodiversity beneath the waves."

•Sir Richard Branson, Founder of the Virgin Group"Sex and the sea are both deeply mysterious. The combination of the two is explosive and makes for a terrific yarn."

•Paul Greenberg, bestselling author of Four Fish and American Catch"Sex in the City can't hold a candle to Marah Hardt's saucy and scholarly Sex in the Sea." Nancy Knowlton, author of Citizens of the Seaâ œMarah Hardt has written a kinky romp through the seaâ •a book that should earn marine biology an X rating."

•Carl Zimmer, author of A Planet of Viruses"Hardt reveals the curious mysteries of marine sex life in fascinating ways...Do yourself a favor and dive into this gem of a book!"

•aimeejustonemorepage.wordpress.com

Dr. Marah J. Hardt is Research Co-Director for the non-profit Future of Fish. A coral reef ecologist by training, she is a former research fellow at Blue Ocean Institute. She has written for Scientific American, The American Prospect, and Scuba Diver Magazine, among other publications. She currently embraces life as a mermaid in the mountains of Boulder, CO.

If my biology classes had been taught by Marah Hardt I might have achieved higher grades. The author's wonderful writing and droll humor counterpoint a lot of serious science. The gender shifting denizens of the seas have a lot to teach us about the silliness of narrow ideas about sex and gender. Males becoming females and back again, male guardians of eggs, and more are featured here as well as the role of human activity on sex changing fish. This fascinating, funny, informative book is a thoroughly enjoyable read. This book was purchased as research for a fantasy book featuring sex changing mermaids, but I read it for fun and enlightenment.

I love this book. Splendidly written, and very clever. Love the premise: "Sex sells". What a clever way to illustrate how nuanced and precious marine life is. Heard an interview with the author on NPR, which prompted my immediate purchase. Thank you for a fascinating, inspiring, and educational read!

As a science teacher I was impressed by the scientific basis of all the reproductive strategy discussions. I really enjoyed the author's voice in making the topic funny and enjoyable. My favorite part, however, is the conservation message. Although the stark reality was presented, the optimistic mindset of all the improvements was appreciated. The book left me feeling educated and empowered!

It's a fun read, not dry science. I'm a long time scuba diver who has been all over the world, and also studied marine science for fun, and I learned a lot of new things. Marah does a great job of storytelling!

Informative, fascinating , and lots of fun to read.

very interesting to read. It is important to learn what is happening in the murky waters. Unfortunately all is very limited because of the difficulties to search and observe. Thank you again.

Scientific and fun! This book has it all ... Easy to read, a lot of interesting information, and some sexy facts you'd never knew you'd know!

I have only read a few chapters and I LOVE this book. Extremely fascinating if you are a fan of Marine Bio/Ocean

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