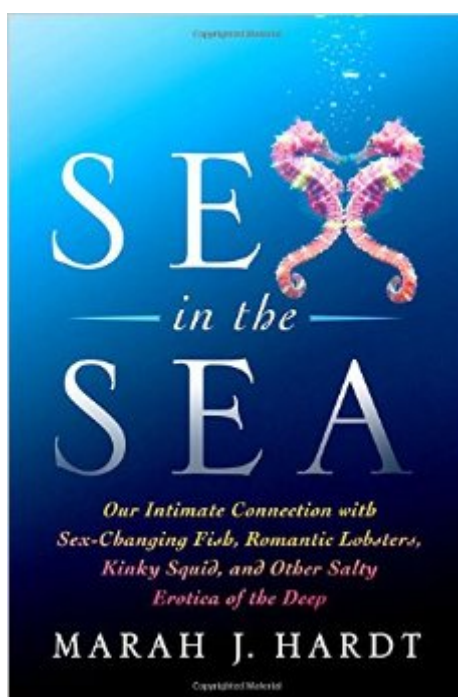


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# Sex In The Sea: Our Intimate Connection With Sex-Changing Fish, Romantic Lobsters, Kinky Squid, And Other Salty Erotica Of The Deep



## 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

This book is really a refreshing and funny read. It is basically about the sex life of sea critters. And believe me, this makes homo sapiens sex lives look pretty vanilla. As a person who enjoys writing, I found reading about the different ways sea creatures procreate to be interesting and enlightening.

Who knew some of these creatures had such involved or curious anatomy. Lots of creativity for science fiction writer to be found in the real life sexual habits of sharks and other denizens of the deep. This book is not for the tame or staid reader. Sexuality is talked about in a frank and funny way. If you are offended by words like horny, or frank talk about anatomy and other words which might set off the censor here at this might be a book to avoid. This would make a great book or tabletop reader for those who are curious about such things, someone who likes sea critters, or just that person with a great sense of humor who enjoys reading unusual things. Definitely worth a read. I enjoyed it.

I have spent precisely zero percent of my life being curious about the sex lives of sea creaturesâ until now! Sex in the Sea is one of the most fascinating books Iâve read. I was both amused and intrigued by the sexual (and sometimes frankly romantic) lives of these denizens of the sea. Who knew lobsters were so romantic (okay, except for the pee thing). The writing style is extremely engaging and readable. Mixed in with the sex, undersea dating, and crustacean romance are some very important messages about how humans impact the environment and love lives of our sea dwelling Lotharios. Utterly fascinating and Iâm not sure I can eat a lobster now that I know what happens to lobsters in love!

I was immediately drawn to this book, just by the title. I'd never given thought one to the sex lives of sea creatures before then. Talk about a fascinating read! The author does a magnificent job of drawing the reader in, then offering information in a straightforward and sometimes hilarious manner. Not a book for those prudish about sexuality, or those easily offended by some wording that may be sexual in nature. The anatomy of sea animals and their methods of reproduction are unique, and the author explains everything in words you don't need to be a biologist (or sexual deviate) to understand and appreciate. Positive and interesting information about conservation and sustainability is given. If you are looking for a fascinating read, this is it. If nothing else, imagine the interesting conversational openers this information could give you.....it would definitely make you a fun guest at parties!

I read a good part of this book while waiting for the South Shore train into Chicago, then read some more while on the 45-minute commute there and back. The title and the content are probably not always safe in public, as I found myself smiling a few times while reading about some of the antics cuttlefish, salmon and sea turtles do to be able to mate and then realized people could see the title

of the book quite clearly from across the aisle. Marah Hardt writes in a very engaging manner, using her wit when describing the underwater sex acts, but also getting serious about science and environmental issues that affect all sea critters. There is never anything that is over any reader's head; all scientific terminologies are properly introduced and explained. The things the critters have to do to have sex is quite impressive. From feigning sex organs, to switching genders, to spitting, eating, throbbing and spawning (and these are the "clean" acts!), our waterborne sea animals have quite a diverse way of propagating their species. And while there is much good humor while describing the many sex acts, Hardt also lets the readers know that many of these sea critters are suffering from loss of habitat, global warming, environmental pollution and overfishing (to name just a few), and many of these critters are having a harder time just surviving. This is definitely an enjoyable read not just for marine animal lovers, but lovers of sex and science.

I love it -- especially the first few chapters which cover how sea creatures attract mates, the specifics of how they mate, and the ability of some to change sex. *Sex in the Sea* is a scientific book, based on research, beautifully written, with humor, and a touch of bawdiness. I would love to share this with my friend's eleven year old son, but I won't because his parents might not appreciate having to explain certain erotic lingo. The text is loaded with metaphors that are creatively used to spice it up a notch, and take a bite out of what might otherwise be "dry" science. I was amazed to learn about the science behind the knowledge -- how studies are conducted and how it is nearly impossible to conduct studies on certain species. The underlying chemistry of sex is absolutely fascinating. The more I read, the more I wondered about the effect of these same chemicals on humans on a micro cellular level. Seems I've heard of (or read about) people with habits suggesting they could have evolved from clan of the lobster, clan of the clownfish, clan of the grouper, clan of the cuttlefish. Snippets about the environment and sustainability -- some of it very positive -- is interspersed. There are footnotes.

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