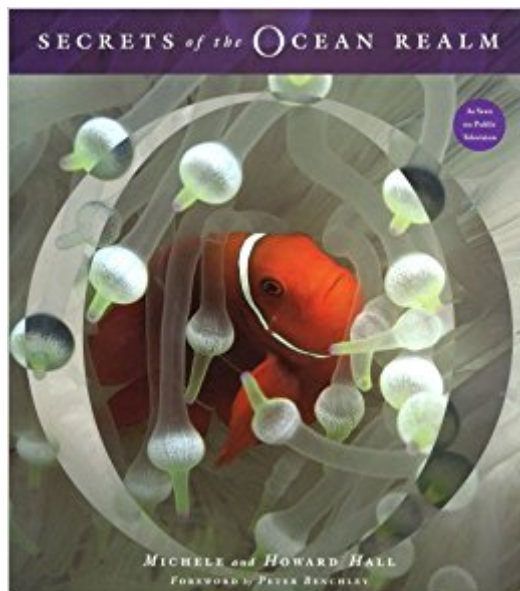


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# Secrets Of The Ocean Realm



## Synopsis

A photographic celebration of the spectacular drama of exotic marine creatures—how they live and the otherworldly beauty of the deep-sea ecosystems that shelter them, *Secrets of the Ocean Realm* is based on a five-part series of public television specials. Written and photographed by Emmy Award winning couple Michele and Howard Hall, *Secrets of the Ocean Realm* is more than just a collection of stunning photographs: it is a revelation of the sea creatures' complex and mysterious cycles and patterns of behavior. The reader is presented with striking images of all manner of marine life—sharks, opalescent squid, molting lobsters, dolphins, giant whales—engaged in the vital activities of mating, threat displays, hunting, and feeding. The remarkable photographs of *Secrets of the Ocean Realm* are complemented with fascinating and engaging stories that take the reader behind the scenes and reveal the state-of-the-art equipment and techniques used to capture these exquisite scenes of underwater life.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 175 pages

Publisher: Atria Books/Beyond Words; Original ed. edition (October 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0786704535

ISBN-13: 978-0786704538

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.8 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,091,064 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #100 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Nature & Wildlife > Underwater #506 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Lakes & Ponds #1857 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Marine Life

## Customer Reviews

"Secrets of the Ocean Realm confirms not only that Howard Hall is the finest and most adept underwater film-maker of our time, but he is also a world-class raconteur. The book is filled with stunning still images from three decades under the sea and the stories of how they were taken....Michele Hall's contributions of still images...verifies a talent equal to her husband's at capturing natural behaviour and the beauty of sea life." (Dive International)"Secrets of the Ocean Realm...offers a look at colorful flora and fauna from both out far and in deep....The book's

119 color photographs and accompanying text bring readers within a scuba-mask of elusive undersea creatures." (Publishers Weekly)

Michele and Howard Hall are natural history film producers specializing in marine wildlife films. Together they have won seven Emmy awards for cinematography and for underwater natural history films made for television. Their articles and still photographs have appeared in prominent natural history and wildlife magazines throughout the world. They live in Del Mar, California.

My daughter requested this book for Christmas. She'd seen it at the library and was entranced.

This is one of the best books I have ever read about the underwater world. Incredibly beautiful underwater photography of high quality. The photos do not only depict animals swimming around but, for example, sarcastic fringehead males in a showy territorial "fight," close up. I also like the authors' sensible view about animals and diving in the ocean. No show-off accounts of near-shark-escapes but an honest experience, mostly good but sometimes scary, of working under water. The authors recount some extraordinary events, such as a ride on a manta after freeing him from entangling fishing nets, or unexpectedly finding themselves surrounded by a school of fish that is being slaughtered by marlins. With this book we get a wonderful view into the ocean world but also a fascinating account of what it is like spending many hours a day waiting, scouting, decompressing, refilling tanks and back to waiting so one can capture a never seen one-minute event on film that made it worth all the work.

Stare at the beautiful underwater photographs. Sit back, relax and gently discover the Ocean Realm with the still images of Howard Hall and his wife Michele, images that, as Peter Benchley (*Jaws*, *The Deep*) writes in the foreword, are among the finest in the world. Dive. Wander through the Kelp forests of the northern Pacific. Get a close-up of sharks and squids in magic detail. Enjoy the vivid colors of the reef and watch lobsters and sea turtles, dolphins and whales in an exciting photographic journey! Since this book is not a reference work, you will also enjoy reading it slowly and in the direction of your choice, diving at pleasure through the light text that describes the Hall's adventures as filmmakers and marine photographers. And then you will also find some information about the sea-life captured in the images and poetic hints about scuba-diving and underwater photography. A nice dive, a pleasant reading and, at the price that .com is offering it, a real gift. Buy the book!

This book is from 1997, which means the photos were taken in the early/mid nineties, and it shows. There are some nice photo's, but you can see that it's quite an old book already: the photo's are definitely not as sharp, nice,... as they are today. Underwater photography has evolved a lot the past two decades. I haven't read the text, so can't comment on that. I'm reselling this book, as for me, it's not a keeper.

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