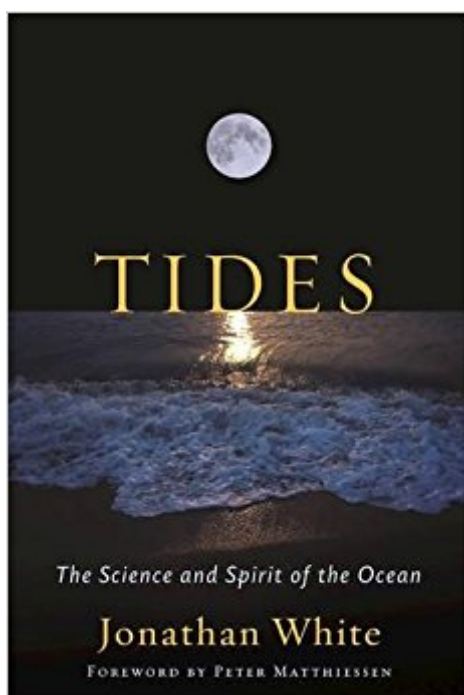


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# Tides: The Science And Spirit Of The Ocean



## Synopsis

In *Tides: The Science and Spirit of the Ocean*, writer, sailor, and surfer Jonathan White takes readers across the globe to discover the science and spirit of ocean tides. In the Arctic, White shimmies under the ice with an Inuit elder to hunt for mussels in the dark cavities left behind at low tide; in China, he races the Silver Dragon, a twenty-five-foot tidal bore that crashes eighty miles up the Qiantang River; in France, he interviews the monks that live in the tide-wrapped monastery of Mont Saint-Michel; in Chile and Scotland, he investigates the growth of tidal power generation; and in Panama and Venice, he delves into how the threat of sea level rise is changing human culture—the very old and very new. *Tides* combines lyrical prose, colorful adventure travel, and provocative scientific inquiry into the elemental, mysterious paradox that keeps our planet's waters in constant motion. Photographs, scientific figures, line drawings, and sixteen color photos dramatically illustrate this engaging, expert tour of the tides.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

REVIEWS: A wonderfully paced account.... White offers clear explanations of how tides work and scientific giants such as Aristotle, Copernicus ... and others helped us get where we are today. — [Wall Street Journal](#); Conservationist Jonathan White combines scientific investigation with personal memoir in this solid examination of the nature of tides and waves. — [Publishers Weekly](#); *Tides: The Science and Spirit of the Ocean* offers a grand mix of science history, ocean lore and literary travel writing. —

Oregonian; A fascinating work of literary nonfiction, rich with characters, stories and scenes from around the globe. [Bangor Daily News](#); White's research makes Tides a fascinating read. [Portland Press Herald](#); Tides is a circumnavigation of the tides are simultaneously the protagonist and antagonist. Wrecker of havoc and deus ex machina. And perhaps what's most interesting is White's narrative surrounding how each part of the world has adapted to their unique tidal variations. Tides aspires to inspire a new appreciation for a global natural process that most ocean enthusiasts take for granted. [The Internia](#); As a surfer and sailor, Jonathan White pays attention to tides. But he didn't really understand them until he traveled around the world to meet people and see places where the ebb and flow, the rise and fall, shape lives and tell epic stories. His new nonfiction book, Tides, is the result. [San Diego Union-Tribune](#); Anyone inclined to take the movement of the tides for granted will think twice after reading this wide-ranging study from a conservationist and avid sailor... White's heightened awareness of the planet's "cosmic beat" is bound to make readers more sensitive to the mysteries of what might otherwise seem commonplace. [Kirkus Reviews](#)

Jonathan White is an active marine conservationist, a sailor, and a surfer. His first book, *Talking on the Water: Conversations about Nature and Creativity*, is a collection of interviews exploring our relationship with nature and features Gretel Ehrlich, David Brower, Ursula K. Le Guin, Gary Snyder, Peter Matthiessen, and others. White has written for the *Christian Science Monitor*, *The Sun*, *Orion*, *Surfer's Journal*, and other publications. He holds an MFA in creative nonfiction and lives with his wife and son on a small island in Washington State. Peter Matthiessen (May 22, 1927–April 5, 2014) was an American novelist, naturalist, wilderness writer, and CIA agent. A co-founder of the *Paris Review*, he was a 2008 National Book Award winner. He was also an environmental activist. His nonfiction, notably *The Snow Leopard*, featured nature and travel, as well as American Indian issues and history, including his study of the Leonard Peltier case, *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*. His early story "Travelin' Man" was made into the film *The Young One* directed by Luis Buñuel, and his novel *At Play in the Fields of the Lord* was made into a 1991 film. He lived in Sagaponak, New York.

Actually, haven't listened to or read it yet! Soon!

Worthwhile reading.

Just Great

Beautifully rendered stories of adventure woven into a fascinating study of tides. This book would be a great gift or read for anyone who loves the ocean.

somewhat technical in places, but very interesting.

POETIC AND FASCINATING!

Tides opened my world view. Though my life on an island is surrounded by them, I will admit that tides are something I hadn't given much thought to beyond their beauty. White is a very talented writer, who will take you through space and time to the science of the tide. If the science behind natural wonder is a curiosity for you--this is a book to put on your Must-Read List. Without a doubt, White's book changed my mind through reading it---there's no going back after entering his beautiful world of tides.

This book is way more than an education about tides - it's about spirit, emotion, adventure. Jonathan's a very talented writer that teaches through excellent story telling. His first person accounts of racing tidal bores, surfing huge waves, gathering mussels under 7' of ice and more are extraordinary. I've always been fascinated by the tides and currents, but now, with Jonathan's easily accessible and informative explanations, I actually feel like I understand them!

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