



“For scientists, laymen, fans of “Jaws” — for *everybody* — this is the most entertaining and comprehensive book ever written about the world’s most fascinating predator.”

— Peter Benchley

“This comprehensive and enthralling text and its superb illustrations are all one needs for a passing acquaintance with the great white shark. (No closer acquaintance with this animal is recommended.)”

— Peter Matthiessen

HarperCollins, 1991, 270 pages, 9" x 12",  
hardcover, \$50.00

This book is the first complete, definitive account for general readers of everything that is known about the great white shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*, the most feared creature in the world’s oceans. It is based on extensive research into the scientific literature and lore of this superbly adapted predator, on analysis of historical records and on the most up-to-date information. The book contains information on size (up to 23 feet and 5,400 pounds), distribution (in all the temperate seas), ancestry, biology, breeding habits, close relatives and feeding patterns (they are partial to seals, sea lions, elephant seals and whales); recounts the attempts to adapt them to aquarium life; and offers dramatic accounts of scores of confrontations with great whites by swimmers, surfers, divers, fishermen, biologists and even small boats.

A special feature is the book’s careful analysis of attacks on humans, many of them fatal. Several of the most famous attack cases, in half a dozen countries, are described in detail on the basis of examination of all available data, including interviews with survivors. The “Jaws” phenomenon is also described, particularly the misconceptions fostered in the public’s mind by the book and the film. Finally, the book discusses the forces that endanger the white shark’s continued existence, as well as efforts that have been made in recent years to encourage its conservation.

Developed in collaboration with Stanford University Press and extensively and beautifully illustrated — with more than 100 color photos and paintings, 93 halftone photographs, 22 line drawings and 5 two-color maps, including 28 original paintings and drawings by coauthor Ellis — *Great White Shark* is a stunning, fascinating and scientifically accurate tour de force.

— from the publisher

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