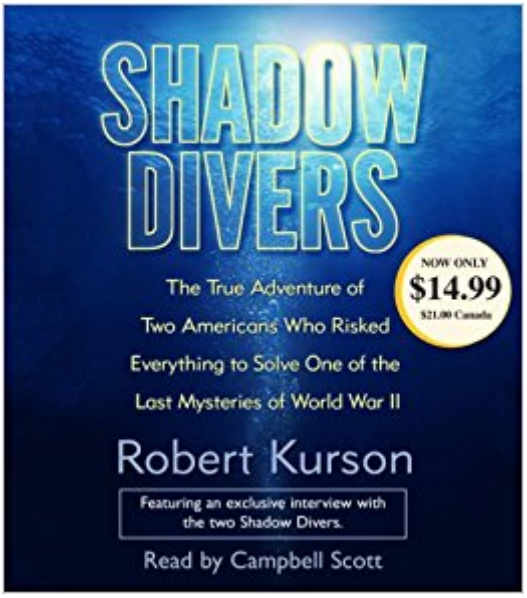
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Shadow Divers: The True Adventure Of Two Americans Who RIsked Everything To Solve One Of The Last Mysteries Of World War II



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Synopsis

New York Times BestsellerÃ Â In the tradition of Jon KrakauerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Into Thin Air and Sebastian JungerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s The Perfect Storm comes a true tale of riveting adventure in which two weekend scuba divers risk everything to solve a great historical mysteryÃ¢â ¬â œand make history themselves. For John Chatterton and Richie Kohler, deep wreck diving was more than a sport. Testing themselves against treacherous currents, braving depths that induced hallucinatory effects, navigating through wreckage as perilous as a minefield, they pushed themselves to their limits and beyond, brushing against death more than once in the rusting hulks of sunken ships. But in the fall of 1991, not even these courageous divers were prepared for what they found 230 feet below the surface, in the frigid Atlantic waters sixty miles off the coast of New Jersey: a World War II German U-boat, its ruined interior a macabre wasteland of twisted metal, tangled wires, and human bonesÃ¢â ¬â œall buried under decades of accumulated sediment. No identifying marks were visible on the submarine or the few artifacts brought to the surface. No historian, expert, or government had a clue as to which U-boat the men had found. In fact, the official records all agreed that there simply could not be a sunken U-boat and crew at that location. Over the next six years, an elite team of divers embarked on a quest to solve the mystery. Some of them would not live to see its end. Chatterton and Kohler, at first bitter rivals, would be drawn into a friendship that deepened to an almost mystical sense of brotherhood with each other and with the drowned U-boat sailorsÃ¢â ¬â œformer enemies of their country. As the menÃ¢â ¬â„¢s marriages frayed under the pressure of a shared obsession, their dives grew more daring, and each realized that he was hunting more than the identities of a lost U-boat and its nameless crew. Author Robert KursonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s account of this quest is at once thrilling and emotionally complex, and it is written with a vivid sense of what divers actually experience when they meet the dangers of the oceanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s underworld. The story of Shadow Divers often seems too amazing to be true, but it all happened, two hundred thirty feet down, in the deep blue sea.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kurson’s chronicle of an extraordinary deep-sea discovery makes for a captivating audio experience. In 1991, divers John Chatterton and Rich Kohler came across the buried remains of a German submarine just off the coast of New Jersey. Unable to identify the ship and mystified as to its origins, the two men became obsessed with learning where the U-boat came from and what brought it to the bottom of the sea. Although the story’s set-up, which comprises most of the first disc, drags, the pace picks up when the partners begin traveling the world, digging up clues. Reader Scott uses character voices but keeps them subdued, even when dealing with the salty language of the seamen. This is a wise move, since there’s plenty of drama inherent in the text; lengthy and detailed passages describing deep-water dives, and the horrible things that can go wrong with them, evoke mental pictures that are atmospheric and downright claustrophobic at times. A segment featuring interviews with Chatterton and Kohler rounds out this satisfying audio edition. Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Deep-wreck divers are used to operating with almost no headroom and in zero visibility, navigating by touch alone; it is a compliment to be told "When you die, no one will ever find your body." Despite the dangers, wreck divers are typically weekend warriors, men who leave families and jobs behind to test themselves at two hundred feet down. Kurson’s exciting account centers on two divers, John Chatterton and Robert Kohler, who in 1991 found an unidentified U-boat embedded in the ocean floor off the coast of New Jersey. The task of identifying it leads them to Germany, Washington, D.C., and the darkest corners of the submarine itself. Some of the most haunting moments occur on land, as when the divers research the lives of the doomed German sailors whose bones they swim among. Once underwater, Kurson’s adrenalized prose sweeps you along in a tale of average-guy adventure. Copyright Ã Â© 2005 The New Yorker --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I must admit that being a retired police officer leads me to police novels, both fiction and non-fiction. I discovered Shadow Divers when surfing for my next read.I have been a recreational SCUBA diver and I love history. I gave Shadow Divers a try.What a treasure I discovered. I loved this novel. First shipwreck divers discovered a sunken vessel, which happens to be a German U-boat. Then the many dangers of deep sea diving. Next is making the identification of the U-boat, which cost lives. Finally, a history lesson about WWII and U-boats.I was so happy that I discovered this book. My eyes are blurred from not putting this book down.I recommend Shadow Divers and will check out other novels by Robert Kurson.

This is the most exciting, engaging book I've read in a couple of years. Bravo to Mr. Kurson for his very thorough research, including interviews. And his writing style is spot on - not to simplistic, not to verbose, but enthralling. His forte, in my mind, is his detailed character studies that tell what makes the principle characters tick - why they are so driven to explore, discover and always seek and present the truth. It was very difficult to put this book down as I followed the real-life mystery onion being methodically peeled open.

This was one of the better books I have read in a long time. The story follows true, hardcore deep divers in their quest for their next find (hopefully an undiscovered wreck) and what they stumble upon is pretty amazing - right off the coast of New Jersey. There is a very long period of time that they spend trying to determine what they have actually found and during that time, tragedy ensues. I can't believe this is a true story! If you are a diver or interested in WW II artifacts or U boats you will really enjoy this book. Includes many photos!

This was a fantastic book about a gripping story - part mystery, part history, with more than a little bit of life thrown in. The story of several divers who discover a u-boat 60 miles of the coast of New Jersey - that's right, a NAZI FRICKING SUBMARINE that was so close the submariners in it could have THROWN bombs at us if they wanted, let alone launching torpedoes... and one that was utterly unknown until the 1990s.The book takes you beyond just the facts of the finding, into the lives of the divers who first located, then risked their lives to return to the wreck again and again until they had found out what it was and verified what lay within. It takes you into the complicated world of deep sea technical diving - a terrifying world where you either knew someone who had died or knew someone who knew someone who had: never more than a few steps away from the grim reaper in a world man is specifically not designed to go.The book was riveting, frightening,

emotional, elated all in stages, and I cannot recommend it enough.

Every so often a non-fiction book just cuts through the clutter and hits you with absolute passion. Shadow Divers is that book. With little knowledge of deep sea diving, this book drew me in with great writing and great research. The story is absolutely riveting. It centers around an unidentified sunken wreck near New Jersey. The characters are beautifully developed, and I became absolutely immersed in the narrative.

When this book was first recommended to me by a friend, herself a professional writer and dive master, I had no business being skeptical. The fact that I had recently been PADI certified could not help but add to the intensity and immediacy of this profoundly exciting - and frequently disturbing - reading experience, but one does not have to know anything about diving to fall under its sway. The storytelling is expertly crafted and executed, written in knockout combinations of tantalizing mystery, WWII history, and plenty of gut-punches and goose flesh to hold the interest of the most jaded reader. Amidst copious doses of balls-out courage and heartbreaking calamity, one finds a depth of emotional sensitivity in its characters, an unabashed reverence for the sea, the past, and the many ghosts each of those worlds holds fast to. In short, it reads like the great adventure it unflinchingly documents. A sea story that ranks with the classics.

I am recreational open water diver. I loved this book because it introduced me to a side of diving I was unfamiliar with. I love the passion these divers have. I enjoyed the story so much because people are really what life is about and Richie finding the family members that were still alive made the ending so sweet. I loved how the author wove in the story of the lives of the divers and the U-boat men into the book. Photos included too. I liked the John’s and Richie passion to fining the truth about the U-boat. Great read!

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