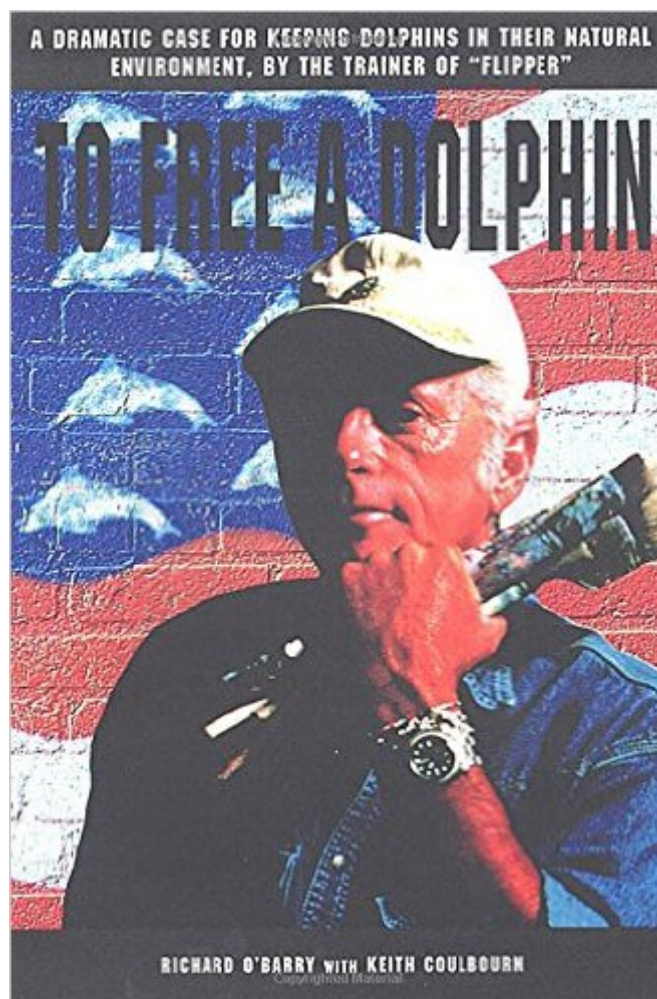


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To Free A Dolphin



Synopsis

In this memorable first book, *Behind the Dolphin Smile*, Richard O'Barry told the inspiring story of his personal transformation from world-famous dolphin trainer (Flipper was his pupil) to dolphin liberator. Now, in *To Free a Dolphin*, he passionately recounts the dramatic story of his heart-breaking campaign to release captive dolphins back into the wild. With wit and insight he chronicles the extreme opposition he has faced from bureaucrats, major players in the captive-dolphin industry, rival wildlife groups, and well-meaning sentimentalists. He introduces readers to famous show animals he has helped, including Bogie and Bacall of Key Largo. And, most fascinating, he describes his struggles to deprogram and rehabilitate dolphins emotionally scarred from years of captivity--struggles that become battles for the animals' souls. O'Barry is nothing if not controversial--passionate about his mission, adamant in his beliefs. And it is some measure of the incredible strength of the opposition to animal rights that it requires all the cunning, all the persistence, and all the strength of character O'Barry possesses to undo even a part of what the billion-dollar captive-animal establishment has created. In the movie, it may be child's play to free a killer whale like Willy. In real life, doing what is right is not so easily accomplished. Whatever one's beliefs about animal rights, one has to admire O'Barry as an authentic American original with a distinctly American dream.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The author, former trainer for dolphins starring on the much beloved Flipper tv series, details his

struggle with big industry while he tries to return dolphins to the wild. There is a big trial in which the author loses a sizable civil fine for his liberation activities. He still has a let's get on with life joie de vivre about him. O'Barry's life is the stuff of drama and he's a modern day David in the eternal struggle with Goliath, in this case the captivity industry.

An exciting must read book! Star of the academy award winning film "The Cove" has created a book that will grab the reader and take you for an amazing ride. Ric O'Barry former dolphin trainer turned activists brings you along as he lives life, and fights to free dolphins. Each chapter details his life and what goes into freeing a dolphin. The book reads almost like a spy thriller as O'Barry joins forces with people in the book sometimes finding they have thrown in with the captive industry or government. You also get an insight into this superstars love life and what family life is like for an unstoppable dolphin activist!

If you open this book you will not be able to put it down, hoping, through every single page, that things will start going the right way. It is infuriating to see how easy it is to boycott those who are trying to do good for the sake of animals, and how those in power will always get their way, in the name of 'science' or some other heartless reason . A real eye opener. All my respect to Mr O'Barry

This book provides a first-person perspective on what started as a noble attempt to obtain captive dolphins and rehabilitate them for release into the wild. Ric O'Barry has developed a credible methodology for teaching dolphins to be dolphins again. He participated in the Sugarloaf Dolphin Sanctuary, and the book gives some idea of how at least some humans kind of lost sight of the main purpose of SDS, leading to something of a disaster. Those who enjoy this book will likely also enjoy a fictional book about dolphins, *Ocean Echoes: A Dolphin Tale*, by Shaney Frey (Seastory Press, ISBN-13: 978-0982115114). Shaney Frey is mentioned briefly in O'Barry's book (in fact, she was the only witness for O'Barry's defense in a trial described in the book), and O'Barry wrote the forward for Shaney Frey's book.

I love Ric O'Barry and dolphins (the two go hand-in-hand) so I may be bias but I really enjoyed this book.

Kind of a tough read, but I love the cause and it was great reading ric obarrys history with dolphins

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