



Blood and Guts: Dispatches from the Whale Wars

Sam Vincent

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I pull on my balaclava and step onto the bridge wing. It's loud outside: I can hear the rumbles of nine vessels' engines and the hiss of ten water cannons ... Suddenly the bridge is full of refugees from the upper deck. They are blocking my view out the back windows, but their faces – afraid, excited, awestruck – illustrate the looming presence of the Nisshin. I bend my knees and grip the bench, ready for the crunch.

In *Blood and Guts*, Sam Vincent plunges into the whale wars.

Vincent sets sail with Sea Shepherd, led by the charismatic and abrasive Paul Watson. He attends the recent case at the International Court of Justice, which finds Japan's 'scientific' whaling in the Southern Ocean to be unlawful. And he travels to Japan to investigate why its government doggedly continues to bankroll the unprofitable hunt.

This is a fresh, funny and intelligent look at how Australia has become the most vocal anti-whaling nation on Earth. Vincent skewers hypocrisy and sheds light on motives, noble and otherwise. With Japan planning to relaunch its lethal program in 2015, the whale wars are set to continue. *Blood and Guts* is a riveting work of immersion journalism that lays bare the forces driving this conflict.

Shortlisted, 2015 Nib Waverley Library Award for Literature

Longlisted, 2015 Walkley Book Award

'A pull-no-punches report on this controversial and complex issue.' —*Qantas the Australian Way*

'*Blood and Guts* is proof that good investigative journalism is alive and well.' —*Readings Monthly*

'This book is a perfect introduction to the whale wars. Whether you're a whale hugger or a whale hunter, you'll be charmed by Vincent's honesty. In his fair-mindedness, he shows affection for both Japan and Sea Shepherd's ragtag bunch. *Blood and Guts* is a gem of journalistic writing. The whales, their hunters and their lovers are lucky to have such a chronicler.' —*Australian*

'Revealing, sometimes hilarious' —*New Statesman*

'Authoritative, strangely entertaining' —*Spectator*

'A fair-minded and fascinating account of the whale wars' —*Ausmarine*

Sam Vincent's writing has been published in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *Age*, the *Saturday Paper*, *Griffith REVIEW*, the *Monthly*, the *Australian* and *Monocle*. He lives in Canberra.

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