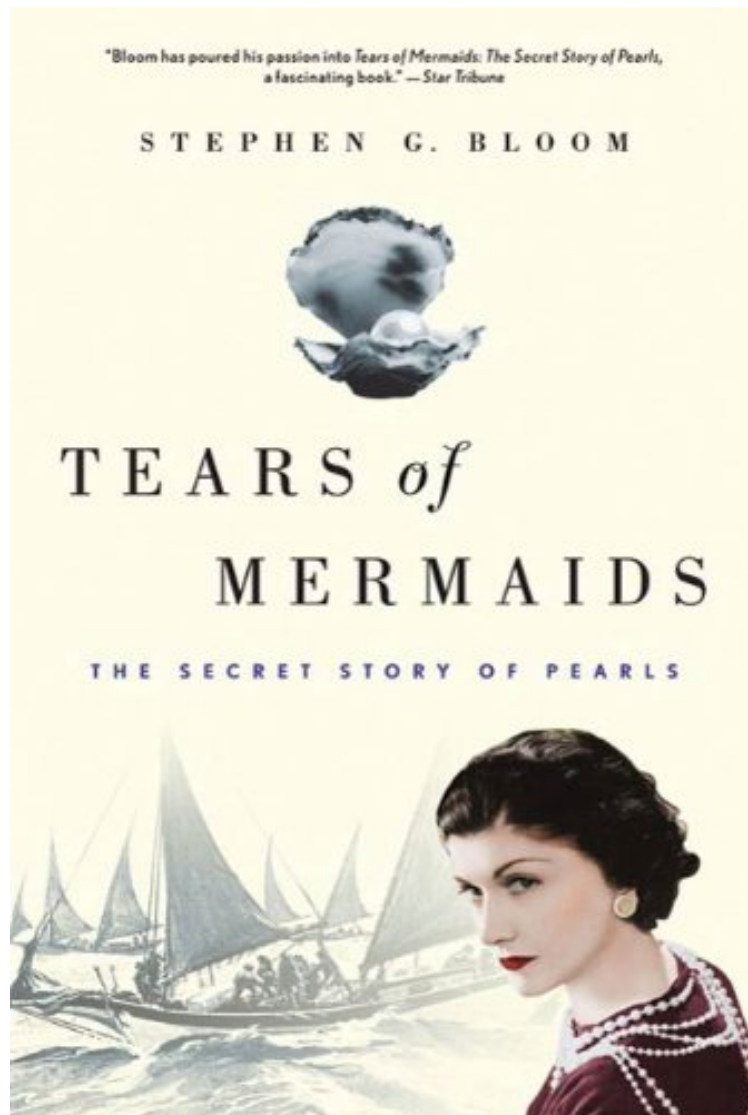


[Download] Tears of Mermaids: The Secret Story of Pearls

Tears of Mermaids: The Secret Story of Pearls

Stephen G. Bloom

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Stephen G. Bloom : Tears of Mermaids: The Secret Story of Pearls before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tears of Mermaids: The Secret Story of Pearls:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful pearl storyBy CustomerWant to dive deep into pearls? Want to meet the pearl honchos!? Love history? Then this book will get to your pearl thirst...Bloom does a great job of teaching the basics abt pearls then wrapping that in stories of greed passion and tall tales...grab some tea and curl up under good lighting and read read read0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An interesting read for anyone in the pearl business, interested in pearls, or just a jewelry aficionado.By KC JonesAn interesting read, even for someone in the pearl industry. It's well written and engaging. It blends facts and opinions nicely to create a

compelling page-turner. The author certainly has his own point of view about many things, some of which I don't share, but he does a good job supporting his points and clearly distinguishes fact from opinion. In the end: entertaining. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Etienne Perret Great history of the pearling industry.

A round, luminescent pearl is the simplest and most perfect gem. Columbus sought—and found; this precious jewel coveted by his Spanish sovereigns, sparking popularity throughout Europe. Fashion icons Jacqueline Kennedy, Princess Grace, and Michelle Obama cherished them, making them iconic. And designer Coco Chanel raised them to new heights, bringing pearls—fake and real—to women everywhere. In *Tears of Mermaids*, Stephen G. Bloom travels 30,000 miles in an effort to trace a single pearl—from the moment a diver off the coast of Australia scoops an oyster containing a single luminescent pearl from the ocean floor to the instant a woman fastens the clasp of a strand containing the same orb. Bloom chronicles the never-before-told saga of the global pearl trade by gaining access to clandestine outposts in China, the Philippines, French Polynesia and Australia. He infiltrates high-tech pearl farms guarded by gun-toting sentries, farms for pearls in rural China, and even goes backstage at Christie's for a fast and furious auction of the most expensive pearl ever sold. Teeming with rogue humor and uncanny intelligence, *Tears of Mermaids* weaves a nonstop detective story whose main character is the world's most enduring jewel.

“In *Tears of Mermaids*, Stephen G. Bloom tells the history of the pearl trade down to the present day, focusing in particular on the harvesting and marketing of pearls in today's global markets. As Mr. Bloom makes clear, pearls are still big business, with dealers routinely exchanging hundreds of thousands of dollars at a time for just the right ones. And certain pearls command astonishing prices. One striking quality of pearls, Mr. Bloom tells us, is the aesthetic rapport they form with their wearers, absorbing body heat and seeming to glow and reflect luminescence onto the skin. For millennia, only the wealthiest members of society could hope to know this quality first-hand. And now millions of people can.” —Wall Street Journal “a labor of love and obsession. Bloom was inspired by a necklace his mother would wear only on special occasions and wound up traveling 30,000 miles over four years in his quest to uncover info on the global pearl trade and its origins.” —New York Post “*Tears of Mermaids* is more than just the biography of a milky orb. It's also an adventurer's travel log, in which Bloom muses on his favorite experiences like living as a deckhand on an Australian pearling vessel and singing karaoke with Chinese businessmen.