



# Dolphin Song

*Lauren St. John*

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## **Dolphin Song** Lauren St. John

Just as Martine is settling into life on the wildlife game reserve, she is whisked away on a school trip. She must leave her white giraffe, Jemmy, for 2 weeks! Her class is going on an ocean voyage to witness the Sardine Run, a spectacular natural phenomenon, off the coast of South Africa.

What begins as an exciting adventure quickly turns perilous when a storm blows up and Martine and her classmates are thrown overboard into shark-infested waters. They are saved by a pod of dolphins, only to end up marooned on a deserted island. The castaways, at odds with one another, must figure out not only how to survive, but how to help the dolphins when a terrible danger threatens them.

In a gripping tale of courage, friendship and survival, Martine must use her healing gift and her wilderness training to save both humans and animals alike.

## **Dolphin Song Details**

Date : Published August 2007 by Orion

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Author : Lauren St. John

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# From Reader Review Dolphin Song for online ebook

## Claire says

A sequel to The White Giraffe. Martin is settling in with her prickly grandmother just as she sets off for two weeks on a boat trip with her class. She has just her one friend, who is not always predictable. A number of the classmates are swept overboard and washed to a 'deserted' island where all Martine's skill's, her healing ability, her decisions to reach out to others and her bravery come into play. African mysticism and Martine's destiny are potent elements of these satisfying novels.

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## Lynnette says

I read Lauren St. John's books aloud to my younger son at bedtime. He loves dolphins (and penguins) so I thought he would enjoy this one. I hadn't realized it was a series when we first started reading it, but after a couple of chapters, we figured out there was a previous book. It didn't matter. Dolphin Song worked fine as a stand alone book. Afterward, we read through the other books in this series (we read them #2, #1, #3, #4).

My son and I both enjoy learning about Africa and all the animals by reading these books. The author inserts real world information into her fictional story. Her story has inspired us to look up photos of the places she mentions in her books, as well as photos and further information about the animals. My son wanted to know what a bushbaby and a springbok looked like, so we Googled images of them. He wanted to hear examples of the Click languages of Africa, so we found some YouTube videos.

The author uses a few words, phrases, and concepts that are beyond my (then) 9 year old, but they just trigger conversations about anything he doesn't understand. There are some sad parts in the series, but overall, I think they are positive books. Martinez and her friend Ben are wonderful and full characters. Reading the whole series also helps to see how Martinez and Gwyn Thomas's relationship evolves.

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## Paige.s says

I thought this book was really great because it is about a girl named Martine and her family in Africa, her grandmother and her white giraffe. I think that it is really cool that Martine has a giraffe that loves her and she gets to ride on it because it lives in the game preserve next to her house. Martine and her classmates are going on a cruise. She leaves and misses her giraffe. Everything seemed just fine until a storm hit the boat and everyone went overboard. Martine and her friends almost drowned but then a pod of dolphins saved them and brought them to an island. They were stranded on this island and had to improvise on the stuff they needed to survive. They were stranded on this island for over a week. Then Martine went for a swim and saw some cables and swam down to them. There was an explosion and two guys came in on a boat. Martine and Ben hopped inside and they hid in the boat until they got to another island. Eventually some guys caught them and put them on death island and said if they could swim back to the other island(8miles) they would take them to where they lived. You are going to have to read the book to find out if they are saved or if they died trying.

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## **Jasper says**

Recently I read Dolphin Song by Lauren St John. The book is about a group of kids who are on a cruise with school. The cruise hits a big storm and 7 of the kids are thrown off the ship. They fall into the shark-infested sea. Martine the main character is terrified of water. Luckily dolphins take the kids to a safe island away from the sharks. The kids are then forced to survive. As the book goes on the school bully gets stung by a Japanese man of war. Martine and her friends must fight to stay alive and to keep the bully alive.

I really like this book to the point where I have read it multiple times. What I like about this book is the fact that everyone gets along fairly well. Another thing I like is that they all stay calm even when they are stuck on an island in the middle of nowhere.

I would recommend this book to anyone really. The reason is that there is hardly anything inappropriate. I found the book really enjoyable and I think that everyone else will find it good too. I would also recommend this to anyone who enjoys action and adventure books. The reason is that there is a lot of action in the middle and beginning of the book.

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## **Brooke says**

Very great book.

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## **Norah says**

Amazing book !

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## **Catherine says**

DOLPHIN SONG REVIEW:  
BY:LAUREN ST.JOHN

Martine's class are going on a ocean voyage to see one of the gratest spectacles on Earth, the "Sardine Run". At first the adventure was exiting but then there was a storm causing the ship to sink. It threw Martine's classmates overboard into shark waters. Martine and a few of her classmates were saved by some dolphins, but they end up in a deserted island. Now Martine and her classmates must survive. She and her friends are waiting for rescue but what if no one comes? What then?...

I really liked this book because it has one of my favorite things: Dolphins. I also like survival stories which made me LOVE this book. I also liked how she was very descriptive. For example: The sun was a band of gold glitter.

I would recommend it to anybody who likes survival or animal stories.

I would rate this book 5 out of 5 stars. =D

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### **Aly says**

This is not my favorite book by St John, but it is still good. It's a little more like Lord of the Flies and less like the first story in the series. Martine's school field trip goes terribly wrong when the boat sinks and Martine, Ben, and a few others drift to a deserted island. While on the island, they discover a problem that may affect the dolphins in the area.

The setting is great, but the idea of a boat sinking is a little tough to believe. The dolphins are also a little too unrealistic. Overall, beautifully written as always and full of wonderful hidden meaning. A feel good book.

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### **Laura Findlay says**

3 or 4 stars - can't decide! I really like this series. This book is a bit 'scarier' than The White Giraffe - there is a full-on, lost on a desert island with sharks adventure. It's gripping! I really like the main character Martine. She's a realistic character dealing with fears and struggles, but she's brave as heck.

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### **Jean Cross says**

Fifth graders will really enjoy this exciting sequel to Lauren Saint John's first book. Dolphin Song explores Martina's relationship with her grandmother and with her friend Ben. It also includes some interesting information about various aquatic creatures and marine mammals. It is a great adventure about survival. The vocabulary is challenging. Readers should note that the information about sonar and its effects on marine mammals is not entirely accurate. Teachers to use this book will want to explore this in further detail.

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### **Anu says**

Eläimiä, jännitystä ja magiaa osa kaksi. Delfiinit pelastavat myrskyn sieppaamat nuoret autiolle saarelle ja lasten on unohdettava vanhat kaunansa ja liittouduttava, jotta selviävät edes hengissä. Vaikeissa olosuhteissa heikoin voi osoittautua odotettua vahvemmaksi ja kovaäänisin voi paljastua suureksi pelkuriksi. Oman henkiin jäämisen lisäksi lasten on huolehdittava myös rantautuvista delfiineista ja pysäytettävä katalat roistot, jotka ovat valmiita uhraamaan ympäristönsä ja harvinaiset eläimet lisätulojen toivossa. Sarja on varsin koukuttava ja ilokseni olen huomannut, että moni vinkattuun ykköseen tarttuva lukee myös sarjan kolme muuta osaa.

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### **Donna says**

I am 45 but really enjoyed this book. I read the first book in the series about a year ago and loved that story too. I plan to read the other books in the series and any others that come out. I think Lauren St. John is a great writer and I love it that she is teaching children to be more conscious of animals and our environment.

This story was full of adventure. Martine and her classmates go on a class trip to see the sardine run and help count the dugongs. The other kids are not kind to Martine or Ben, a boy who no one has heard speak at school. While on the cruise they did see the sardine run and also some dolphins but then a terrible storm engulfs the boat and several students are lost overboard. What happens next is terrifying and amazing.

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### **Julie says**

My class know that I love reading and I am lucky to have some keen readers who like to share what they are reading with me. When a 9 year old comes up to you and says 'Miss, you have to read this, it's brilliant' and thrusts the book at you, well, how can you not read it!

This is the second in a series about a young girl who goes to live with her grandmother on a South African game reserve after the death of her parents. Martine has healing powers and is able to help sick animals. In this book, she goes on a boat trip with her class and things take a turn for the worse...

I enjoyed this. For a children's book, it has some quite sophisticated ideas. There is enough action to keep the reader interested and interesting characters. One to recommend to others in my class.

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### **Dee says**

What would you do if you were stuck on a deserted island surrounded by undersea mines and only your stuck-up classmates for comfort?

Martine, an orphan who recently moved to South Africa to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve, enjoys her new life in Africa. Until, that is, she leaves on a class trip to witness the Sardine Run. For her classmates, it's a chance to witness a natural phenomenon. But for Martine, it is her worst nightmare. Not only will she be on a boat for ten days with her not-so-nice classmates, but she'll also be surrounded by shark-infested waters, something she's been scared of since she was a little girl.

When they hit a hurricane at sea, Martine and some of her fellow classmates are thrown overboard and rescued by dolphins. The dolphins swim them to a deserted island where Martine and her classmates are forced to work together to survive. Suddenly, the same dolphins that saved them start to beach themselves on the island. Martine and her classmates wonder what is causing the dolphins to act so strangely--and what they discover is that the island has a mystery all its own. It takes everyone's courage to discover what the island is hiding and how to save the dolphins in the meantime.

Lauren St. John weaves an interesting story of survival, ambush and wildlife conservation in this all-too-real drama about the wild dolphins of our world's oceans.

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### **Erin says**

I loved Martine, how brave she is when everyone is stranded on the island, and I love how forgiving she is as well. She is so in tune with nature, and I can't wait to read the other books in the Animal Healer series!

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**Carolien says**

My daughter selected this one at the library and it became our evening read aloud book. We both enjoyed it. The plot intertwines elements of African mythology with environmental concepts and an island adventure. The dolphins are lovely and the characters well developed. A really interesting middle grade read.

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**Emma says**

Really good book , I would definitely recommend

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**Lydia says**

Lauren St. John is such a good writer! This book was written so well, because it was touching, action filled, and suspenseful. Plus, the writing techniques she used were really good, and they enhanced the feeling of the book.

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**Alyse says**

This is the second book in the animal healer series. My class of third graders loved the first one (The White Giraffe); this one had about 75% that loved it. I liked it but it's not one I would read again next year to my class.

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**Sievrin says**

I just started this book today and I like the authors point of view and how the characters are introduced in the text and story. Just the first chapter tells Martines story and what happened to her and her parents. SO far the book has been really well structured. Martine had a hard time with her grandma before leaving for her school trip to the seas. Martine and her grandma left on some bad points and she's not coordinating with her teacher either.

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