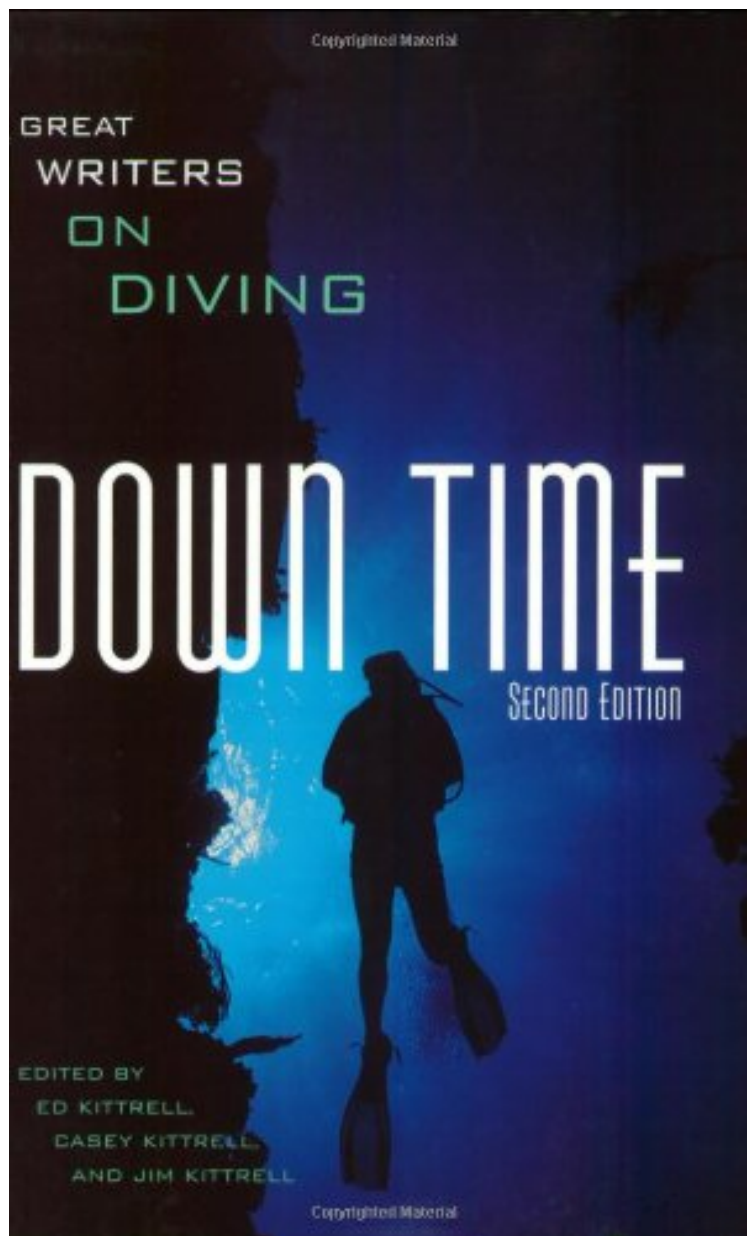


[Mobile book] Down Time: Great Writers on Diving

Down Time: Great Writers on Diving

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From Look Away Books : Down Time: Great Writers on Diving before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Down Time: Great Writers on Diving:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best dive books I haveBy Bruno Araujo De OliveiraI'm

worried about how low this book is rated. I thought that the fact that "Shadows Divers" is a better book than "The Last Dive" had proved that we want writers diving and not divers writing! ;-)

To me, it's more important that a book is well written than technically relevant. Especially if we want to have fun with it and not always learn something new to improve our diving skills. Often recreating the awe of a great moment underwater is more important than knowing about accident statistics. The true story written by Jacques Cousteau about how he did the first (ever) scuba dive in a Nazi occupied France, worth alone the price of this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Book By Sway

Good book of short stories on diving, passes the time. Good contributors and it is widely varied.

22 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Decent collection, not all stories fantastic

By Henry N. Heinz

I recently read this collection of stories while on a nice tropical vacation where I did a couple of dives - so was in the mood. Below, I have broken down some of the positives and negatives that I took away from this collection:

The positives: This is without a doubt a comprehensive collection of writings - in terms of the time period covered and styles of writing (humor, poetry, etc). I thought that some of the stories were really great - couldn't help but laugh at Dave Barry's description of diving. I found a few of the older pieces very interesting due to the historic perspective / context.

The negatives: Any time you take on a project to compile a collection this large across different writing styles, it should be a given that all pieces are not going to appeal to all readers. About 25% of the stories simply did not appeal to me. Secondly, there also seemed to be a recurring "What my first dive was like" or "What it feels like when you are down there" theme. I also found this a bit tiresome after awhile. As a diver, unending explanations of how clear and blue water is, the sense of weightlessness, etc got to be a bit much. Almost drove me to the best example I could think of - a bottle of Bombay Gin.

Closing: A large enough body of work that I think that every reader will find some of the stories very worthy reading. Light enough for a good vacation or bedtime read. Worthy enough purchase - I think a good gift type of purchase for that diver's Christmas fin.

More than 35 passages from novelists, journalists, poets, playwrights, essayists, and scientists detail an intertwined passion for diving and the written word in this collection. From Robert Stone's portrayal of a diver who faces the terrorizing prospect of his air running out to Clare Booth Luce's search for the treasures of the underwater realm, every passage reveals a perspective of the world that only divers have known. Humor columnist Dave Barry battles a lobster and explains why staying on the ocean's surface is like "going to the circus and staring at the outside of a tent." From Rangiroa to the Red Sea, from deep within caverns to the eerie light under ice, from the lethal silliness of nitrogen narcosis to the elation of soaring over unfathomable depths, every selection, like every dive, is a unique experience.