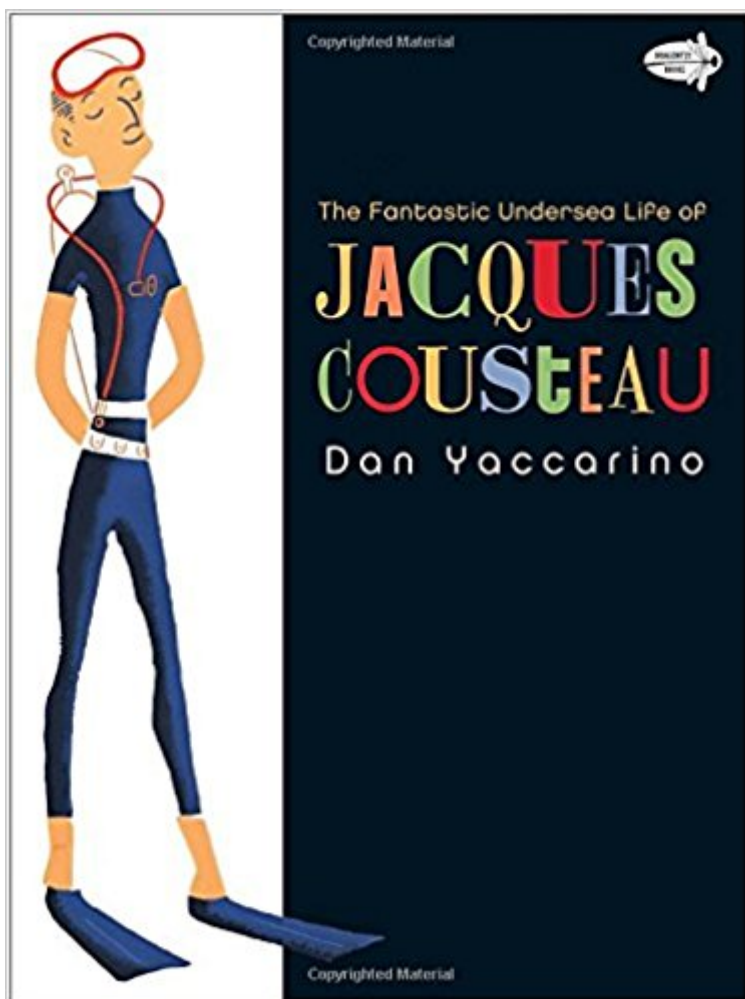


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# The Fantastic Undersea Life Of Jacques Cousteau



## Synopsis

Jacques Cousteau was the world's ambassador of the oceans. His popular TV series brought whales, otters, and dolphins right into people's living rooms. Now, in this exciting picturebook biography, Dan Yaccarino introduces young readers to the man behind the snorkel. From the first moment he got a glimpse of what lived under the ocean's waves, Cousteau was hooked. And so he set sail aboard the Calypso to see the sea. He and his team of scientists invented diving equipment and waterproof cameras. They made films and television shows and wrote books so they could share what they learned. The oceans were a vast unexplored world, and Cousteau became our guide. And when he saw that pollution was taking its toll on the seas, Cousteau became our guide in how to protect the oceans as well.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 840L (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books (May 8, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375844708

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Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 0.2 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #127,673 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Oceans & Seas #63 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Water #137 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 4 "Yaccarino deftly provides information about important events in Cousteau's life while conveying the excitement and wonder that the ocean explorer experienced. Readers learn about his tinkering that resulted in inventions such as the Aqua-Lung and submersibles that expanded the range of undersea exploration and research. Then Cousteau shared his discoveries through films, books, and television, encouraging others to value and protect the oceans from

environmental degradation. Effective layout and page design plus colorful gouache illustrations result in a striking visual presentation for small-group sharing or individual viewing. Brief quotations from Cousteau appear in insets on some pages; there is no documentation of Yaccarino's own research. Jennifer Berne's *Manfish* (Chronicle, 2008) uses more poetic language and features softer, more aquatic colors in the illustrations. Even libraries with that biography will want to add Yaccarino's book to the shelves. © Kathy Piehl, Minnesota State University, Mankato Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Yaccarino is best known for his whimsical animal characters, including some, such as Oswald the octopus, who now star in their own television series. Here he switches focus to a real-world, human hero: famed oceanographer Jacques Cousteau. The brief, evenly paced text, which includes a few direct quotes, describes Cousteau's lifelong fascination with the sea, filmmaking, and invention, beginning with depictions of the scientist as a young boy, tinkering with cameras and swimming in the ocean to recover from chronic illness. Rendered in gouache and airbrush, the playful illustrations evoke popular mid-twentieth-century patterns and shades—a fitting reference to Cousteau's professional heyday. A few scenes seem to emphasize design over realistic depictions: undersea vessels, in particular, are indistinct shapes, and Cousteau himself often appears as a stylized figure. The fanciful, textured images give a sense of the sea's infinite swirl of life, though, and they are further grounded by the solid, straightforward words. Pair this energetic, inspiring biography with Jennifer Berne's *Manfish* (2008), another picture-book view of Cousteau's life and work. Grades K-3. --Gillian Engberg --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Great book. My son is still a bit too young to read it, but he already enjoys the pictures very much. We've had some conversations about it and it's helped us work on our swimming. When he doesn't want to go I just bring up Jacques Cousteau, and he's on board. Plus I get to be the cool dad whose kid knows about Cousteau (even if he has a little trouble with the name). Can't wait to watch the films with him!

This is a fabulous book. Very informative and appropriate for elementary students. I used it as the beginning read-aloud for our Summer School "Splash Into Learning" Camp and it allowed us to discuss oceanography, sea life, conservation, and was the spin-off for the entire camp.

This picture book by Dan Yaccarino is a great glimpse at the life of Jacques Cousteau. His illustrations are vibrant and colorful, and the Jacques Cousteau quotes set on the pages are great conversation starters for young readers. An interesting read for any children interested in the life and work of Jacques Cousteau.

Excellent book. This book allowed the children to explore the sea and understand why some scientists explore the sea. Loved it!

My grandson loves the book. At 3 years old he wanted a book about a 'diver man'. Nice to find not one but 2 books about Jacques Cousteau suitable for his age.

I purchased this for my 8-year old for a school project. The book is beautifully illustrated but the content was too young for him--not enough. Definitely a good library addition for a younger child.

Great book for kids and an interesting read for adults with fantastic pictures.

A lot of facts and biographical information, well-written for and easily digested by children (8-9 year-olds). It is nicely illustrated, too.

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